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Staying connected

Don Campbell / HP staff

Lakeshore High School teacher Christy Sloan talks with one of her students about a reading assignment while working remotely from the spare bedroom of her St. Joseph home Friday morning. Teachers across the country are working from home due to school closures from COVID-19.

Area educators learn on the fly how to keep students engaged online

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

Teachers across the state have been scrambling to find ways to stay connected with their students virtually since Gov. Gretchen Whitmer ordered that all schools be closed, starting March 16 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some teachers were already doing some online learning, so the switch was fairly easy.

But others, like Amy Perkins, were almost total newbies.

"I'm learning as I go," said the history teacher from Lakeshore High School in Stevensville. "This is a lot like being a first year teacher all over again."

She said it helps that the Lakeshore school district provides Chromebooks to all middle and high school students. Perkins said she doesn't have all of the resources and technology at her house that she needs, but she's figuring it out.

"You're really adapting every day, trying to meet the needs of your students, so it's requiring a lot of creativity and growth," she said.

And it requires cooperation. Perkins said she couldn't have done it without help from an online community of teachers and from her students.

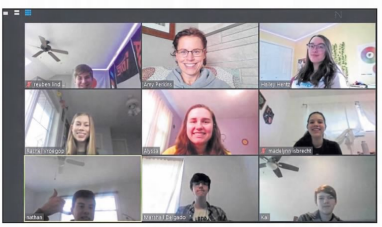

Photo provided

Lakeshore High School teacher Amy Perkins engages online with students this week. Perkins admits it took her a little bit to get up to speed with her students, who were far ahead of her in terms of technology.

"It's a very collaborative learning experience for the students, who are sharing with me information that they're aware of," she said. "Our students are so tech savvy. This is an opportunity for them to be more of a partner in the learning experience."

Perkins has used many platforms, including Google Docs, Zoom and Netflix Party, to share her knowledge of history with her students.

"So we can review together, even though we're isolated in quarantine," Perkins said.

Christy Sloan, an English teacher at Lakeshore High School, said she is also new to online learning.

Sloan said it's vital that teachers stay connected with their students during this time.

"They need this. They have to have something to think about and focus on because this is strange for them," she said. "It's strange for all of us."

Shelly Archer, a second-grade teacher at Mars Elementary School in Berrien Springs, said she decided to create a plan using smartphones, since some of her students don't have access to computers.

"I wanted this environment to be safe for parents and their children, so I created a private Facebook page called: Archer's Sensational Second Graders," she said in an email.

Archer said she posts videos of learning challenges, with her students able to upload video responses. She also sent her students on a virtual field trip to the San Diego Zoo through Sandiegozoo.org, where there are several tours and live cams of 11 animals.

"I encouraged them to ... share on our Facebook page what animals they liked and why," she said.

Motivating students

Michigan teachers need to find different ways to engage their students, since state officials have said the online work may not count toward the number of hours required for this school year. Local teachers said the activities they are doing with their students are for enrichment.

"The goal is to keep them motivated, keep them interested, so what we're teaching them has to be engaging and has to be relevant in their lives," Perkins said.

However, the situation is in flux, as the governor said Friday that it is "unlikely" that schools

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Sampling of area residents expresses fear, frustration in wake of stimulus bill

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

President Donald Trump's signing of the historic $2.2 trillion economic relief package late Friday afternoon was met with happiness, but also a little frustration from Ethel Clark-Griffin of Benton Harbor.

She said she was laid off from JVIS Manufacturing in Benton Harbor on March 19 when the plant closed and is glad the package includes expanded unemployment benefits. However, Clark-Griffin said she's been trying to sign up online or by phone since Monday with no luck.

"If I can't get through, that won't affect me," she said. "If I don't get through by this week, I believe I lose the first week of benefits."

Because of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order issued earlier this week, the ability to sign up for unemployment benefits in person has been canceled.

Clark-Griffin isn't the only one who is frustrated. She said other laid-off workers keep calling her for help since she's the plant's union representative, but she has no help to give.

Benton Harbor native Diane Young said people have been calling her, asking for help registering for unemployment since she works as a success coach at Michigan Works.

Young likewise can only advise people to keep trying.

"They just have to keep calling and going online," she said.

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency sent out a news release recently, asking people to be patient because the online system is overloaded. Before March, the average number of hourly transactions was around 5,000. Now, MILogin is processing about 25,000 transactions per hour, according to the release.

Because of the backlog of people trying to file, UIA Director Steve Gray said that the eligibility window to apply has been increased from 14 to 28 days from the date of their work stoppage.

Not enough money

Gwendolyn Williams of Benton Township who is retired, said she disagrees with the stimulus package because it isn't focusing on what is truly important.

"It should have included (COVID-19) testing for everybody and paid for treatment if people get sick," she said. "... That should have been automatic."

Williams added that it isn't enough money, anyway.

"It's nothing but smoke and mirrors. It's a diversion," she said.

Trenton Bowens of Benton Harbor agrees that the stimulus doesn't give enough money to the people who need it.

"It's going to pay off some bills," said Bowens, who works two jobs and was laid off from one. "I'm like many other people. We're living paycheck to paycheck."

He said part of the problem is that many of the companies and businesses that have closed will

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Michigan's 'snowbirds' don't know if it's safe to come home

Residents who fled winter might not be able to come back

By MEREDITH SPELBRING
Detroit Free Press

Karen Sharp went down to her Naples, Florida, home in November with plans to say until April.

Thanks to the spread of the novel coronavirus, Sharp now feels she will be there much longer.

"My biggest fear is I won't be able to get home for three months," she said. "And I really want to be home."

She is one of many Michigan residents who annually flee the harsh Michigan winters in favor of warmer, sunnier days in Florida, known as "snowbirds." But as states lock down, the decision to stay in vacation homes is not an easy one.

Under Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order, travel to return to Michigan from outside the state, travel to another state from Michigan, travel from one residence to another Michigan residence and travel to comply with the order are all considered legal exemptions.

After waffling back and forth between staying or returning to her Michigan home, Sharp said she felt like the world was sending her signals to stay. She made the decision to trek back up north by car, packing her stuff and getting set to go. She then decided against driving, due to what she felt were risks at gas stations and hotels, and bought a plane ticket.

Her originally scheduled flight was canceled and she was rebooked onto a full plane.

"I am not getting on any full flight to go anywhere. I want to be 10 feet from everyone," she said. "I canceled everything and now I am just stuck here. I mean it is a nice place to be stuck, I'm in Naples, but I want to be home."

Boarding an airplane in the time of coronavirus was out of the question for Tracy Ward and her husband Bruce Graham, too – but ultimately, so was staying at their Manasota, Florida, home.

"I just had to get home," Ward said. "My kids are there, I just really, really need to be home as nice as it is in Florida at this time of year."

The two made the trip south with plans to stay until the end of April, but the spread of COVID-19 forced them to weigh the factors in staying in their winter home or returning north.

"It was a chore because 'Are we going to be better off? What are we going to do in the event one of us does get sick?'" Ward said. "It is a state that is full of older people like us so we thought if we get sick, where are we better off? Are we better off in Michigan, which has a great healthcare system? Are we better off in Florida? There was a lot that went into the decision."

The comforts of home and a known medical system were enough to call

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Comics	C4	Religion	C3	Opinion	A4	Sports	C1
Features	A3	Local	B1	Outdoors	C5	Television	A3

Sunday Weather
High 50 Low 39

6 50645 49086 7

STIMULUS

From page A1

not reopen, leading to a lot of people being unemployed for a long time.

"We need a universal income," he said.

Transparency needed

Mary Brown of St. Joseph said she's worried about what is hidden in the bill.

"I am very supportive of any legislation that will help the American people survive this without having a hardship," she said. "I just want to make sure they didn't put things in this bill that shouldn't be there."

Brown said she's especially concerned about the $25 million in the package to support the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC.

"This is not a time for self interests," she said. "This is a humanitarian effort to take care of our people."

She said all of the money should be going to help people survive, and for critical supplies such as respirators.

Chriss Lyon of St. Joseph agrees that the money should be focused on helping people and on addressing the pandemic. Lyon said she hopes the package does some good and isn't just a big giveaway of money.

"We're in an election year," she said. "Stop with the politics and focus on the people."

The package calls for individuals to receive $1,200 if they make less than $75,000 a year and for married couples to receive $2,400 if they make less than $150,000 a year.

Dannetta Moore of Benton Harbor said those limits are set too high.

"A person who makes $75,000 makes enough money that they know how to save some," she said.

Moore said she won't turn down the money, but feels it could have been used in a better way to help the people who truly need it.

When The Herald-Palladium asked for comments on Facebook, Dawn Fredrickson of Stevensville said she doesn't need or want the money from the package.

"Help those who need it but why go further into debt when there are those who really don't need it?" she posted.

Help to pay bills

Kateesha Adams is the property manager of Hope VI Group, which includes four low-income housing developments in Benton Harbor, with 242 units.

"I definitely believe that this will be helpful," she said.

Adams said the office is shut down to comply with the governor's order to stay home. But she says she has to go into the office once a day to get the mail. When she does, she said the phone rings off the hook.

"A lot of my tenants are extremely worried," Adams said. "They call, saying they've been laid off and don't know if they can pay the rent."

She said the money from the stimulus package will help them pay some of their bills.

An anonymous person from Bridgman said some people are homeless and haven't filed income taxes for several years, but receive Medicaid and food stamps. He wants to know if they will receive a check.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

SCHOOL

From page A1

will reopen this school year, and that final decision will be made soon.

Bridgman Superintendent Shane Peters said this is a wake up call to state legislators that the state's education system needs to modernize.

"As I look at our friends in Indiana, they've been doing e-learning for years," Peters said. "When they have a snow day, they call it an 'e-learning day.'"

Adam Baker, press secretary for the Indiana Department of Education, said his state started e-learning in 2011. There is even an office of e-learning in the education department that shares information with school districts.

Baker said e-learning is not mandated but in the past few years, there has been a surge in districts adding it.

Peters said what state leaders in Lansing decide about students receiving credit for the online learning is up to them. He said learning is always important and his district won't stop teaching the students.

"Here in Bridgman, I feel as a leader that we have that moral and ethical obligation to provide learning to kids if we're out three weeks or 30 weeks," he said. "That's our job as public educators."

Peters said Bridgman students already have electronic devices to learn on from the school district. For students without an internet connection, he said they gave them mobile hot spots.

"I have a child in high school," he said. "It is truly remarkable what these teachers have been able to accomplish in these last eight to 10 days. I cannot verbalize how impressed I am with these professionals taking their lessons and their plans and changing it remotely within hours. These are heroes as well. They're taking some anxiety away from families right now because we're keeping kids in their routines."

Keeping life somewhat normal

Besides motivation, another goal of online learning in Michigan is to add an element of normalcy to the students' lives, Peters said.

"These are unprecedented times for all of us," he said. "How do we take care of kids who are struggling with what's going on in our world because as big people, we struggle with it because we don't know. As much normalcy we can bring to them, I think it helps make this a better situation."

Lakeshore Superintendent Phil Freeman said that while his district's middle and high school students already had electronic devices they could use at home that were provided by the school district, the elementary students did not.

Freeman said elementary students who needed a device were able to borrow them, and some were set up with mobile hot spots, he said.

"We've handed out over 100 devices to make sure they had the same access as everyone else," he said.

Freeman said it's important for students to stay in the routine of learning.

"This is going to end at some point," he said. "We need to be ready and we need to get out the message that learning's important."

Freeman said some teachers have been using the internet to "flip" classes for years.

He said "flipping" a class means that the students watch the lesson at home on their computer and then do what is traditionally assigned as homework at school, where they can talk about it with their teacher.

"You have the support of a teacher while you're working through your problems," he said. "You have the expert right next to you."

High school seniors

Kelly Gaideski, director of curriculum and instruction at St. Joseph Public Schools, said she's been working with Lake Michigan College to figure out how the high school students taking direct credit classes at the high school can still receive college credit for the classes.

She said LMC instructors have switched to online learning but so far, it is unknown what the state Legislature is going to allow local school districts to do.

"Ohio just recently voted in some educational reprieves," she said. "So there's a model out there that maybe will lead (Michigan legislators) to taking that action. It's an uncertain time and they've got a lot on their plate as well."

Gaideski said students in advanced placement classes will still be able to take the AP test for possible college credit. She said College Board, which handles the AP classes, is developing online tests that can be taken at home that are estimated to take around 45 minutes to complete.

Meanwhile, Gaideski is also working with the district's teachers at all grade levels as they work on remotely connecting with their students.

"It's an unchartered time but wow, have educators everywhere stepped up and really gone above and beyond, even with the limitations, to try to help students stay connected," she said. "That's the key. They're connected. They're still learning. They're still curious. I'm just amazed and overwhelmed. Literally, we shut down schools in a matter of hours and what our teachers have done during this time, it's heartwarming."

Preparing for closure

Freeman said many Berrien County superintendents have been preparing for the possible closure of schools since Feb. 25, when the U.S. Centers for Disease Control announced that schools may need shut down to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

"We took it seriously," he said. "Right away, we started using our school safety plans to put together the shell of a document on what to consider."

Freeman said he sent out instructions to teachers on March 3 that they should submit their plans on how they were going to teach remotely by March 13. Freeman said he asked that their plans be for 10 days.

"Then, as you know, the governor made her announcement that she was closing schools on March 12," he said.

The initial announcement called for schools to be closed until April 5. That order was later extended to April 13.

Freeman said several superintendents still meet virtually every day around noon to support each other and share information.

"This is a pretty stressful time for everybody," he said. "It is really nice to bounce ideas off other professionals."

New on the job

Benton Harbor Superintendent Andrae Townsel, who started on Feb. 17, said he's been impressed by how supportive area superintendents are and at how professional the Benton Harbor staff has been.

He said that all students now have electronic devices to work on and if they have internet problems, staff is taking care of them.

"Everyone is doing a phenomenal job," he said.

When asked if his first month as superintendent has been rough, Townsel said he tries to stay positive.

"I'm just thankful to be able to serve," he said.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

LOTTERIES

Friday drawings

Michigan

Poker Lotto
9C-2D-6H-7H-9H
Midday Daily 3
7-7-7
Midday Daily 4
5-1-2-4
Daily 3
4-9-7
Daily 4
1-3-1-0
Fantasy 5
01-03-21-30-34
Keno
04-07-15-17-20-31-33-35-38-40-41-44-46-48-56-57-60-64-67-68-69-75
Mega Millions jackpot
$107 million
Powerball jackpot
$160 million

Thursday drawings

Indiana

Cash 5
09-17-32-41-43
Cash4Life
01-41-42-47-58, Cash Ball: 2
Quick Draw Midday
02-03-08-13-19-20-23-24-25-39-41-46-47-51-53-54-57-61-65-78, BE: 46
Daily Three-Midday
6-4-7, SB: 6
Daily Three-Evening
5-3-2, SB: 7
Daily Four-Midday
5-3-1-3, SB: 6
Daily Four-Evening
1-0-0-5, SB: 7
Quick Draw Evening
05-07-11-19-22-24-28-30-31-34-36-38-39-42-56-57-64-69-77-80, BE: 39

Illinois

Lotto
01-08-09-13-24-41, Extra Shot: 18
Estimated jackpot
$6.5 million
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
01-06-12-26-32
Pick Three-Midday
0-8-1, Fireball: 7
Pick Three-Evening
7-8-4, Fireball: 0
Pick Four-Midday
5-6-0-5, Fireball: 5
Pick Four-Evening
5-3-8-0, Fireball: 4
Lucky Day Lotto
19-20-27-34-39

– The Associated Press

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SNOWBIRDS

From page A1

former Free Press columnist Susan Ager and her husband back north from their Poinciana, Florida, winter campsite.

"As one of the women in the campground said, 'If I am going to get sick, I would rather get sick at home.' And that made a lot of sense. If you are going to get sick, you want to be in your own bed, you want to have your own doctor and just be in a place that is most familiar to you."

Seeing other snowbirds make the decision to leave and watching their resort campsite amenities close down helped her and her husband make the decision.

"I resisted the idea of coming back because I knew I would be more isolated if I came back," she said. "But my husband wanted to come back particularly then both of us agreed that things could get worse."

Ward's husband wanted to weather the storm in the balmy Florida conditions, but the two agreed to make the 23-hour drive north. In a car stocked with sanitizing wipes and toilet paper, they are prepared to take added precautions at gas stations, hotels, and drive-thrus along the drive.

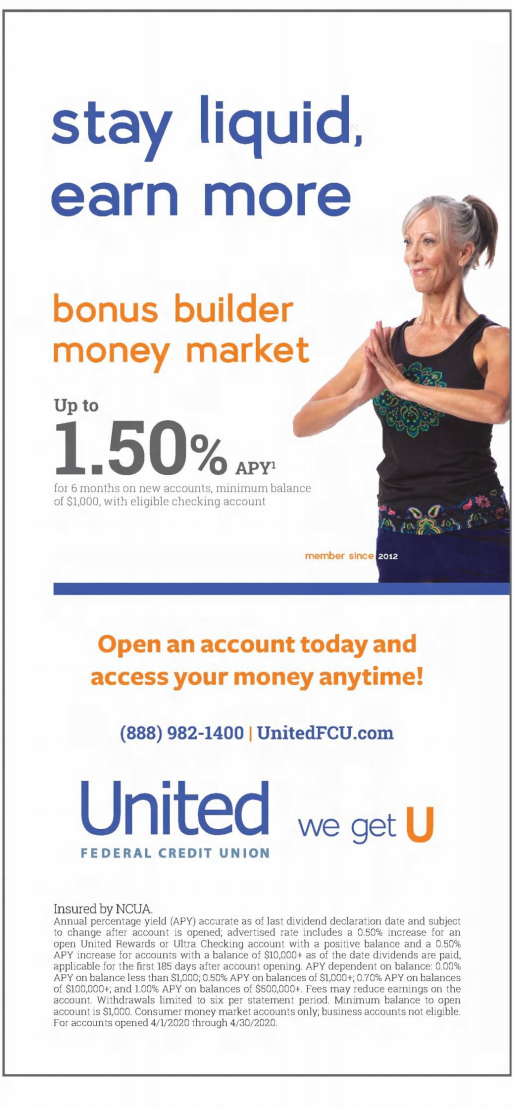
"He's regretful, and I am the happiest one to be driving home in the fog and the rain," Ward said. "I was happy to get out of Florida ... I am happy. I think this is exactly what we were supposed to do and get ourselves home and hunker down."

Once they make it back, its lockdown mode for 14 days to ensure anything that may have been picked up on the road is not spread.

It puts Ward and Graham at the center of an ugly debate flourishing on social media. As more people are juggling the decision on where best to ride out the coronavirus wave, more are voicing their opinions on best practices. Fear over the continued spread of the virus has led people to call on those to stay put or don't return to Michigan at all.

Sharp made her decision to stay and is sticking with it, despite several days of back and forth. Knowing she is not the only Michigander remaining in place is comforting, but not the comfort she wants.

"It's insane. I feel bipolar and I'm not," Sharp said of her decision to stay in Florida. "It is just an emotional roller coaster. Yesterday I was so excited that I was coming home and today I sat in bed and cried because I can't come home."


stay liquid, earn more
bonus builder money market
Up to
1.50% APY1
for 6 months on new accounts, minimum balance of $1,000, with eligible checking account
member since 2012
Open an account today and access your money anytime!
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United FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
we get U
Insured by NCUA.
Annual percentage yield (APY) accurate as of last dividend declaration date and subject to change after account is opened; advertised rate includes a 0.50% increase for an open United Rewards or Ultra Checking account with a positive balance and a 0.50% APY increase for accounts with a balance of $10,000+ as of the date dividends are paid, applicable for the first 185 days after account opening. APY dependent on balance: 0.00% APY on balance less than $1,000; 0.50% APY on balances of $1,000+; 0.70% APY on balances of $100,000+; and 1.00% APY on balances of $500,000+. Fees may reduce earnings on the account. Withdrawals limited to six per statement period. Minimum balance to open account is $1,000. Consumer money market accounts only; business accounts not eligible. For accounts opened 4/1/2020 through 4/30/2020.

PRIME TIME TV

SATURDAY EVENING MAR. 28

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC (7) (10) (41) (57)	Wheel of Fortune	Shark Tank (CC) (DVS)		American Idol "308 (Hollywood Week – Solos)" (CC)			
CBS (2) (3) (22)	One Smile	NCIS: Los Angeles "Let Fate Decide"		SEAL Team "Pattern of Life" (CC)		48 Hours (N) (CC)	
NBC (5) (8) (16)	Talk Stoop	★★★ Trolls ('16) Voices of Anna Kendrick, Justin Timberlake. (P), (CC)				Saturday Night Live (N) (CC)	
FOX (17) (22) (28) (32)	To Be Announced	LEGO Masters (CC) (DVS)		9-1-1 "Fools" A viral stunt goes haywire.		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) (CC)	
PBS (34)	Lawrence Welk	Antiques Roadshow (Part 1 of 3) (CC)		As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	Keeping Up Appearances (CC)	
CW (25)	Big Bang Theory	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Seinfeld (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	News	Cops (CC)
MNT (39)	Graham Bensinger	To Be Announced					
WCIU (26)	2 Broke Girls	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers
WHME (46)	HS Basketball	High School Basketball Teams TBA. (N) (L)		IHSAA Class 4A Tournament, Final:			Heartland
WGN (9)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	WGN Weekend News at Nine (N)	
A&E	5:00 Live PD (CC)	Live PD: Rewind (N) (CC)		Live PD "Live PD -- 03.08.19" (CC)			
AMC	5:35 Rocky II	:10 ★★★ Rocky III ('82) Sylvester Stallone. A merciless contender forces Rocky into a title match.				:40 Rocky IV	
Animal	Life Zoo	The Zoo: Bronx-Sized "The Sea Lion Saga"				The Zoo: Bronx	
BET	Stomp	★★★ Barbershop: The Next Cut				Seven Pounds	
Big Ten	College Lacrosse			To Be Announced			
Bravo	★★ Next Friday ('00, Comedy) Ice Cube, Mike Epps, Justin Pierce. (CC)			Ice Cube,	★★★ Friday ('95) Ice Cube, Chris Tucker. (CC)		
Cartoon	Steven	Dragon	Dragon	American	American	Burgers	Fam. Guy
Cinemax	:00 Strike Back	7:50 ★★ I, Robot ('04, Science Fiction) Will Smith. (CC)			:45 ★★ In Time ('11) Justin Timberlake. (CC)		
CMT	6:00 ★ Tammy			★ Coyote Ugly ('00) Piper Perabo. (CC)			
CNBC	Boss	Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss	
CNN	News	CNN Newsroom		Race-Whte Hse		Royal Dynasty	
Comedy	★★★ Wedding Crashers ('05) Owen Wilson.					★ Grown Ups	
Discovery	Afraid	Naked and Afraid: Uncensored (N)		Street Outlaws (CC)		Street Outlaws (CC)	
Disney	Owl Hse.	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Owl Hse.	Owl Hse.
DIY	Alaska	Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters	
E!	★★ The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift				★★★ Fast & Furious ('09)		
ESPN	Home	UFC Archival					
ESPN2	To Be Announced			To Be Announced			E:60
ESPNC	Football	College Football From Jan. 7, 2013.				College Football	
Food	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	Life	Watters' World (N)		Justice With Jeanine		Greg Gutfeld	
Fox Sports	H.S. Basketball	Spartans		Spotlight	Game	H.S. Basketball	
Freefrm	:10 ★★★ Kung Fu Panda 2 ('11) Voices of Jack Black.			:15 ★★★ Despicable Me 2 ('13) Voices of Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig. (CC)			
FX	Greatest Show	★★★ Hidden Figures ('16) Taraji P. Henson. Mathematicians help launch astronaut John Glenn into space. (CC)					
Golf	:00 PGA Tour Champions Golf			PGA Tour Golf From Austin, Texas.			
Hallmark	:00 In the Key of Love ('19) Laura Osnes. (CC)			Just My Type ('20) Bethany Joy Lenz, Brett Dalton. (P). (CC)			
HBO	6:00 Shaft ('19)	★ The Kitchen ('19) Melissa			:45 Westworld "The Winter Line" (CC)		High Main.
History	Aliens	Ancient Aliens		Ancient Aliens (N)		:03 The UnXplained	
HGTV	Love-List	Love It or List It		:01 Love It or List It		Nate and Jeremiah:	
Learning	Say Yes	Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta (N)				Say Yes	Say Yes
Lifetime	Perfect Mother	A Mother Knows Worst ('20) Katie Leclerc, Jeff Schine. (P). (CC)				:03 My Mom's Darkest Secrets ('20)	
MSNBC	MSNBC	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Bulls	To Be Announced					Postgame
NFL	Football	A Football Life		A Football Life		A Football Life	
Nick	Henry	Danger	Dylan	Substitute	Danger	Friends (CC)	
NGEO	Drugs, Inc.	Drugs, Inc. "Hurricane Blow" (CC)				:03 Drugs, Inc. (CC)	
Oxygen	DNA of Murder	To Be Announced				Cold Justice (CC)	
Parmt	:00 ★★ The Expendables 3 ('14, Action) (CC)					★★ Red 2	
Showtime	:00 Homeland	Black Monday	:32 Black Monday	Black Monday	Black Monday	Boxing Luis Nery vs. Aaron Alameda. (N)	
Starz	Spider-Man	★★ The Girl in the Spider's Web ('18, Action) Claire Foy, Beau Gadsdon. (CC)				9:58 Outlander (CC)	
STZENC	★ Jack and Jill	★★ Night at the Museum ('06, Children's) Ben Stiller, Carla Gugino. (CC)				9:51 ★★★ Back to School ('86)	
SyFy	:00 ★★ The Hitman's Bodyguard ('17, Action) Ryan Reynolds. (CC) (DVS)				:35 ★★★ 21 Jump Street ('12, Comedy) Jonah Hill. (CC)		
TBS	:00 ★★ London Has Fallen ('16)		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	
TCM	Four Musket.	★★★★ A Letter to Three Wives ('49) Jeanne Crain, Linda Darnell. (CC)				★★★ People Will Talk ('51) (CC)	
TMC	:25 ★★★ The Babadook ('14, Horror) Essie Davis. (CC)			4/20 Massacre ('18, Action) Jamie Bernadette. (CC)			You Better
TNT	Bat v Sup	★★ Justice League ('17, Action) Ben Affleck.					Suicide
Travel	Haunted	Woo.- Haunted		Woo.- Haunted		Haunted Hospitals	
TV Land	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
USA	Harry Potter	:10 ★★★ Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 ('11, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint. (CC) (DVS)					
VH1	★★★ White Men Can't Jump			★★★ House Party ('90) (CC)			
WGN-A	:00 Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods "Hand-cuffs" (CC) (DVS)		Blue Bloods "Authority Figures"		Blue Bloods "Disrupted"	

Hip replacement surgery should be last resort

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors

DEAR DOCTOR: How do I know if I need a hip replacement? My right hip gets so stiff after I've been sitting at work for a few hours that I can hardly walk, and then it aches for the rest of the day and night.

DEAR READER: The hip is one of the largest weight-bearing joints of the body. Its unique structure lets humans stand and walk upright and gives our legs and torso an impressively wide range of motion. It is a ball-and-socket joint, which means that the rounded head of a bone fits neatly into a cuplike hollow. In the case of the hip joint, the ball-shaped head of the femur, which is the upper leg bone, sits inside a socket within the hip, known as the acetabulum. The surfaces of the femur and the hip socket are lined with cartilage, a smooth and springy connective tissue that cushions the joint and helps reduce friction. A membrane known as the synovium produces a thick liquid that lubricates and nourishes the interior of the joint. Fluid-filled sacs known as bursae act as cushions and protect the muscles and tendons as they move over bony areas within the joint. Muscles, ligaments and tendons anchor the hip joint and provide power, stability and flexibility.

The most common reason for a hip replacement is damage to the parts of the joint that reduce pressure and eliminate friction. This often occurs due to osteoarthritis, a degenerative condition in which the tissues of the joint begin to deteriorate, and rheumatoid arthritis, a chronic inflammatory disorder. Injuries, fractures, wear-and-tear due to overuse or being overweight, and cancer, while less common, also can lead to the need for a hip replacement.

One of the main symptoms that the joint may need to be replaced is significant and persistent pain. This occurs while walking, sitting, standing or bending over, and often is severe enough to wake you from sleep. It interferes with the ability to carry out daily activities and impairs quality of life. Imaging tests that reveal arthritis, or damage to the bone or tissues of the joint from other causes, also may signal the need for joint replacement.

A hip replacement is major surgery. It entails removing the damaged or diseased tissues and replacing them with an artificial joint. Post-surgical physical therapy is a big part of a successful outcome, and full recovery can take from six months to a year. It is important to note that the new joint lasts about 15 years, after which it will need to be replaced again. Before diving into the deep end, your health care provider is likely to ask you to explore noninvasive interventions. These include rest, physical therapy, weight loss, using a cane and a range of anti-inflammatory or pain medications. If these fail to provide adequate relief, or if the medications are not tolerated, then a new joint may be the best option.

If you do opt for a hip replacement, find a reputable and experienced surgeon. You want someone who is board certified in orthopedic surgery, specializes in hip replacement, has experience with your specific condition and accepts your insurance.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

How do I get pushy friend to back off?

Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

Hi, Carolyn: My pushy friend is driving me bonkers. I have to tell her "no" at least three times before she backs off. From food to music to travel and beyond. I don't think it's ever occurred to her that not everyone has the same tastes she does. Examples: Telling me repeatedly to get sauce on my taco because it's included in the price, no matter how many times I say the sauce is too spicy for me. Asking me repeatedly to go to a jazz concert after telling her I'm not into jazz. Asking me to travel at least once every time we speak, despite knowing that my mom has three surgeries coming up and I can't travel any time soon. Trying to physically wrap a shawl around my shoulders after I told her six times (no exaggeration) that I wasn't cold. Hovering while I cook and checking each step of the recipe to make sure I'm doing it right. I feel like a toddler saying, "No, no, no!" because I don't want to eat the sauce or wear the shawl. I used to consider her the nicest person I've ever met. She's pregnant and under a lot of stress and I wonder if this has something to do with it. Maybe it's anxiety? This all started before the pregnancy but has definitely gotten worse. It also feels like she just wants to push her tastes on me and doesn't care what mine are. It's exhausting and I'm pretty much done with this friendship. Or should I wait and see how things go post-baby? Maybe set limits on how often I see her and avoid eating with her? But then she'll ask me to dinner nine times and I'll have to keep saying no. – Bonkers

Bonkers: If I'm reading this correctly, then you haven't said to her explicitly, in response to the third no-sauce-please or sixth time you've said you aren't cold: "What. is. going. on? Are you OK?" Followed by a kind, gentle, plain accounting of the change you have witnessed in her and your frustration with her pressing you repeatedly.

After that, you can respond once to a first intrusion, and from there say, "I said 'no,' " to a second, and give no response at all to a 3rd/4th/nth. And in time, if you haven't run through a wall a la Wile E. Coyote, you can skip all of these responses and just look at her the first time with eyebrow(s) raised and be done with it.

Meaning, of course, you stop accommodating. Short version.

When you have the what's-going-on conversation, please ask whether she has considered getting screened for anxiety and/or talking to a pro about the stress she is under.

There is a fine line between showing concern and telling someone they're doing life wrong and need to fix it to your liking – irony alert – but friends are often our best mirrors when we've undergone a concerning personality change. This sounds like one of those cases.

If you really just want out of the friendship, then that's your prerogative, but having had the "Whyyyyyyyy are you telling me seven times how to order a taco?" conversation will save you a lot of splaining when that day finally comes.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

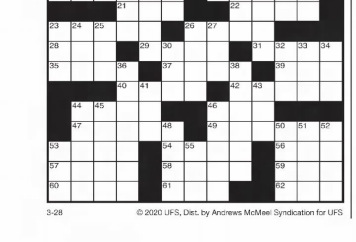
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 German physicist
4 Lao-Tzu's "way"
7 Snazzy
11 Grass skirt go-with
12 Em, to Dorothy
13 Himalayan monk
14 Help out
15 Louver
16 "WNBA Tuesday" broadcaster
17 Ruffles
19 Talk pompously
21 Princess Di's niece
22 Pecan shape
23 Ms. Witherspoon
26 Overfeed
28 Age
29 Tablet
31 Bona fide
35 Action word
37 — pro quo
39 Puppy cry
40 Vaulted recess
42 Asserts
43 Feeling
46 Exclamation of disgust
47 Hounds' trails
49 Messy
53 Muse of history
54 Versifier
56 Sign before Virgo
57 Stratford's river
58 Count (on)
59 Fall behind
60 Family members
61 Mo. multiples
62 Herr in Madras

DOWN
1 Norwegian monarch
2 Legatee
3 Popular hemline
4 Oklahoma oil city
5 Literary collection
6 Eight, in Roma
7 Butcher's tool
8 — la vista!
9 Use force
10 Preserve food
12 Dozing
18 Deli units
20 Compost
23 Step on the gas
24 Before
25 Swab
27 Target
28 Slide sideways
30 Mensa stats
32 Organ of sight
33 Full of hot —
34 CD forerunners
36 Chimps' kin
38 Delicate
41 Pricing word
43 Poodle's doc
44 Car import
45 Figure of speech
46 Energy sources
48 Nimble
50 Misfortunes
51 Honey
52 Jellystone bear
53 Rotating part
55 Above, in verse

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	L	U	R		D	R	S		W	O	R	M		
Y	O	G	A		E	E	O		A	G	U	A		
E	L	L	S		C	P	A		V	E	I	L		
	L	Y	C	R	A		P	R	E	E	N			
		A	U	F		B	U	R						
A	M	B	L	E		B	O	N	S	A	I			
V	E	E		A	X	E		G	O	O	D			
E	S	A		X	L	S		M	U	D				
	H	U	R	R	A	H		C	H	E	S	T		
		O	A	R		P	O	I						
	L	I	B	Y	A		E	M	P	T	Y			
G	U	R	U		M	O	D		P	E	E	L		
A	R	K	S		D	A		O	R	L	Y			
B	E	S	T		E	E	L		S	A	L	E		



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JUMBLE

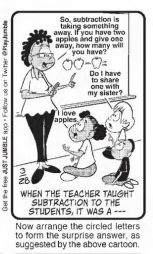
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEYMS

SSEEN

SUEYNA

LAPLOG


So, subtraction is taking something away. If you have two apples and give one away, how many will you have?
Do I have to share one with my sister?
I love apples!
WHEN THE TEACHER TAUGHT SUBTRACTION TO THE STUDENTS, IT WAS A ---

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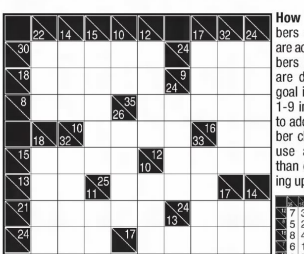
Get the free JUMBLE app for iPhone and Android: tribunemedia.com/jumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: VIPER WAFER COMPLY VIRTUE
Answer: The on-demand documentary about wood pulp production was a — "PAPER"-VIEW MOVIE

KAKURO



How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/28

BRIDGE

One of my favorite figures of speech is the oxymoron, in which contradictory words are combined. For example, philanthropic skin-flint or speedy snail. At other times, we say things that are impossible when taken literally. For example, people who smile while gritting their teeth.

Shakespeare must have liked oxymorons because he scattered them in a speech by Romeo in Act 1, Scene 1.

On today's deal, you must try to accumulate nine tricks in three no-trump. What would you do after West leads the diamond queen, and East encourages with the nine?

I know it is almost de rigueur these days with only 6-9 points to skip over diamonds to show a four-card major. However, when that major is weak, showing diamonds is not so silly. Why? Because occasionally opener will raise the major with only three-card support in a 5-4-3-1 hand. That 4-3 fit will not play well.

Your road to nine tricks has to be one spade, two hearts, one diamond and five clubs.

In clubs, there are two lines of play. You can cash the three top honors, or you can take a first-round finesse of dummy's 10. Which is better?

Playing off the three top honors wins whenever the clubs divide 3-3, which is a 35.53 percent chance. Taking the finesse works whenever

North 03-28-20
♠ J 8 5 2
♥ A 6 3
♦ 7 5 4 2
♣ Q 10

West
♠ K 9 6 3
♥ J 9 4
♦ Q J 10 8
♣ J 4

East
♠ Q 10
♥ Q 10 7 2
♦ K 9 6
♣ 9 8 7 3

South
♠ A 7 4
♥ K 8 5
♦ A 3
♣ A K 6 5 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: North South

South	West	North	East
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Opening lead: ♦ Q

West has J-x (8 percent), J-x-x (18 percent) or J-x-x-x (16 percent). That gives a total of 42 percent. So, grit your teeth and play a club to dummy's 10. Then, here, you and your partner will be all smiles.

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

5				7				9
		8		9	5		7	
7				3		2	8	
		5						
2			4	8	9			7
						1		
	6	7		1				4
	2		9	4		7		
4				2				8

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

9	2	4	6	7	8	3	1	5
6	8	1	5	2	3	4	7	9
3	5	7	9	4	1	8	6	2
4	6	8	1	9	5	2	3	7
1	9	5	7	3	2	6	4	8
2	7	3	8	6	4	9	5	1
5	4	6	2	8	7	1	9	3
7	3	2	4	1	9	5	8	6
8	1	9	3	5	6	7	2	4

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Crisis opens gates to crazy spending proposals

Jonah Goldberg

I think you and any viewer knows exactly where I'm going with this," MSNBC host Ari Melber said halfway into a stemwinder of a question for Sen. Cory Booker.

"What are we to make of the fact that for years on end, Washington, the town you work in, seems to speak with one voice that there are certain things that can't be done, that are off the table, that are too expensive, then when we have a crisis like this ... no one is saying don't pass a big, expensive bill ... we suddenly have trillions of dollars to deal with things on an emergency basis. What does that make you think of, and do you see any silver lining or hopeful sign that it means that actually things that we were told are impossible are suddenly possible and fundable?"

Then, Melber said the scariest thing someone can say to a senator: "And I'll give you as much time as you need to give us your thoughts."

To his credit, Booker's answer was shorter than Melber's question, but still too long to quote in full.

"Well, look," Booker began, "it's often during crisis that you see Americans expand their moral imagination." He noted how the Birmingham, Ala., church bombing opened America's eye to the evils of segregation, and how the Triangle Shirtwaist fire illuminated the problem of poor working conditions. "And now," Booker said, "this crisis has hopefully begun to inspire the moral imagination in our country" to deal with health care.

Booker's response was better than the question. But that question and the underlying assumptions behind it are all over the place these days. It boils down to: You people said we couldn't afford X (where X equals the Green New Deal, or "Medicare for All," or canceled student debt, or all three), and now we can afford to spend trillions in response to the coronavirus. So were you just lying?

It's an infuriating question, particularly coming from people who incessantly (and often fairly) criticize President Donald Trump for wanting to politicize this crisis. It's also a dangerous one, because while it may sound entirely legitimate to people who already agree with the premise, it sounds very different to people who don't.

But let's start with why it's flawed on the merits.

Under normal circumstances I can't afford to spend $20,000 to fly first class to Hong Kong. But if, God forbid, the cure for some terrible disease my daughter was suffering from was in Hong Kong and only first-class seats were left, we'd both be on that plane tomorrow – even if I had to borrow the money. And let's not forget that this massive spending bill, justified though it may be, is a massive borrowing bill, adding trillions more to the debt.

In other words, crises are different. We spend money differently during them. We also do things that under normal circumstances we would consider wrong, illegal, unconstitutional or all three. If Lincoln had suspended habeas corpus during peacetime, he'd rightly have been impeached.

Which brings me to my second point.

One reason many people are deeply skeptical of climate change is that a lot of the stuff progressives propose to fight it are things they want to do anyway. And often, the stuff they want to do in the name of fighting climate change has nothing to do with climate change. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's original proposal for a Green New Deal includes trillions in funding for Medicare for All but nothing for nuclear power. The former would do zilch to reduce CO2 emissions; the latter would do a lot.

During the debate over the economic rescue package last week, House Majority Whip James Clyburn said this crisis offers a "tremendous opportunity to restructure things to fit our vision." The House version of the bill was full of gratuitous nonessentials such as regulations for forced diversity hiring. (The bill included 32 instance of the word "diversity.") The final version has $25 million in funding for the Kennedy Center.

If you want to convince normal Americans to take a crisis seriously, you have a moral obligation to act as if you take it seriously too. Using it as an opportunity to get things you couldn't successfully argue for before the crisis tells people you're not as serious as you expect them to be. And that is a surefire way to sow precisely the sort of partisan distrust you decry.

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online. Email: JonahsColumn@aol.com.

It was a quiet death

Leonard Pitts

A few words on the quiet death of an Italian priest.

His name was Don Giuseppe Berardelli, and he served in Casnigo, a small village not far from Milan. He was 72 and died in a hospital of the novel coronavirus.

This was on March 15, though reports are just now filtering out. Again, it was a quiet death.

As such, it was easily lost in the cacophony of our times. Particularly here.

How would we have heard about this death over the sound of one Brady Sluder, shirtless, hat to the back, maybe 20 years of age, telling a Reuters reporter on video that he wasn't going to let a little pandemic keep him from enjoying spring break in South Florida. "If I get corona, I get corona. At the end of the day, I'm not gonna let it stop me from partying."

Nor would we have heard of the priest's death over the howls of indignation after Sen. Rand Paul, who is also Dr. Rand Paul, golfed, worked out at the gym, met with reporters, lunched with his fellow Republicans and otherwise kept to his normal routine, all while waiting to learn if his test for the coronavirus would come back positive. Which it did.

And surely we would not have heard of this quiet death over the braying of Donald Trump, insisting against the judgment of medical professionals, that chloroquine, a drug used to combat malaria, could be a "game changer" in the fight against this coronavirus. An Arizona woman and her husband took him at his word, ingesting a fish tank additive containing the same active ingredient. She almost died. He did.

Against the blare and bleat of all that, it is no surprise this obscure death made little impression. But it's worth noting just the same. You see, Father Berardelli died after he gave away his respirator. The life-saving device had been bought for him by his parishioners. But he insisted it go instead to a younger patient who was struggling to breathe, a person the priest did not know.

The obvious biblical maxim leaps to mind: John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

But if the priest's death honors the precepts of Jesus, it also implicitly shames much of what we have seen here in response to this pandemic. Where he modeled selflessness, many of us have modeled its polar opposite. Not just putative leaders like Paul and Trump. Not just the central casting beach bro, Brady Sluder.

No, that also goes for people hawking Purell at $600 a bottle. And the ones in the warehouse stores brawling over toilet paper.

You always wonder who you'll be in the moment of crisis, how you'll acquit yourself when stuff gets real. Will you do the right thing? Even if it's hard? Even if it demands sacrifice? Even if it means your poll numbers drop or, God forbid, you miss out on a party? Are you the soldier who throws himself on the grenade? Or are you the one who knocks down his buddies trying to get away?

There's a temptation to give the easy answer, the one that flatters self-image. The truth is, this moment is testing us, and many are coming up short, all too ready to abandon the "we" and embrace the "me." And yet, facing a crisis far greater than lack of Charmin, Father Berardelli made a different call.

You'll find no grand, summarizing moral here. Instead, let's close by simply noting that there was no funeral for the priest – they're not doing funerals in Italy these days. But it is said that when his casket rolled through the village, people applauded from their windows and balconies. It was a quiet acknowledgment of a quiet death.

And of a hard test met with grace.

Leonard Pitts Jr. is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Email: lpitts@miamiherald.com.

LETTERS

South Haven gave up too quickly on fireworks

Editor,

South Haven's announcement that it is canceling the Fourth of July fireworks and now closing the marina because of high water shows a lack of "American spirit." Instead of throwing their hands up in the face of challenges, they should be searching for solutions. Why not a barge off shore or in the Black River to shoot fireworks from? Why not raise the electric and dock decks? We must realize these are long-term problems when we compare the cost versus the benefits.

Philip Brown
Tucson, Ariz.

Grateful for so much now in this time of crisis

Editor,

I work at the Woodland Terrace communities in Berrien County. I have never been more proud of that fact than today. Because these are difficult times that we are facing, over the next months we will see people face problems like we have never seen in America. I want to help people recognize some ways to be grateful.

1) I am grateful to face this in America and not another country.

2) I am grateful for the extraordinary leadership we have at our hospital. In particular, Dr. Loren Hamel, Dr. Lowell Hamel and Dr. John Froggatt. With their leadership we will get through this much better than we would without them. I believe we have better leadership at Spectrum Health Lakeland than almost any other comparable facility. Our facility is run by doctors!

AMERICA COPES WITHOUT PRO SPORTS
WHOA! SUSIE MAKES A BOLD MOVE THERE! VERY GUTSY! CAN TOMMY MAKE A COMEBACK?
PLAYING CANDYLAND USED TO BE FUN.

3) I am grateful for the everyday health care heroes that will battle this problem in the days ahead.

4) I am grateful Berrien County got more time to prepare for this than some places, like Italy and Iran.

5) I am grateful our economy was strong prior to this and will rebound after this.

Please thank anyone that you know that works at a hospital, skilled nursing or assisted living facility. They are doing anything and everything that they can to prepare and protect the people you care most about.

Many people in these situations want to place blame on the president, the governor or the Chinese. But I believe we should not allow ourselves to be victims of other people or circumstances. Instead we need to allow ourselves to do what we can do to make a difference. If you can, apply for work or offer to volunteer at your hospital, nursing facility or assisted living facility. No matter what you do there, IT MATTERS! Never before have I appreciated the truck drivers bringing goods, the trash person getting my trash, the stockers at Meijer, the pharmacy employees, etc. I have never seen people and business stepping up like this before. Make sure that when you look back on your life you are proud of how you responded in this crisis. I believe that each of us can step up and do something to help!

I am truly grateful for this community that I get to live and serve in.

Tim Dockerty
Berrien Springs
CEO, Woodland Terrace

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

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All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. Letters must be 500 words or fewer.

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Trump does his best to divide us in a time of war

By DAVID ZURAWIK

President Donald Trump is trying to turn the greatest medical crisis of our lives into a messaging war. Forget science; focus on media and perception. That's where Trump's emphasis has clearly moved this week, even as the nation engages in a monumental debate about saving lives vs. restarting the economy, perhaps as soon as Easter.

But this is one war the president might lose at the hands of the very weapons he used to get elected: social media and cable TV. How would that be for irony?

Monday night, CBS, NBC, CNN and MSNBC all cut away from a White House briefing on the virus. The bully pulpit didn't seem so bully as MSNBC and CNN offered live interviews and taped comments from New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, California Gov. Gavin Newsom and an array of medical experts. The White House issued an angry statement in response Monday night calling the decision by the cable channels to leave the president's session "disgraceful."

On Tuesday, Trump fired back at the lack of coverage by headlining a noon-hour, live, virtual town hall from the Rose Garden on Fox News with Bill Hemmer and Harris Faulkner as hosts. It was vintage Fox-Trump propaganda with the president trying to rewrite history to explain how brilliant he has been and how "unfair" mainstream media are in their coverage of him. Not all media, mind you. Trump went out of his way to say what a "fantastic person" Faulkner is.

Trump rewarded Fox for its unchallenged airtime and safe questions with a scoop: He said during the town hall that he wanted to see America back to work by Easter. It was the president's way of showing he could make headlines.

And those who play his game will gain, while those who resist will get pain.

First in line for pain during the Fox broadcast was Cuomo, who had been going out of his way to get along with Trump during the crisis. That changed Tuesday morning, though, when the New York governor criticized the Trump administration for sending him only 400 ventilators when he had requested 20,000.

"FEMA says, 'We're sending 400 ventilators.' Really? What am I going to do with 400 ventilators when I need 30,000?" Cuomo said.

Trump attacked Cuomo directly, claiming that Cuomo had a chance to buy 16,000 ventilators in 2015 and turned it down to establish "death panels and lotteries instead." According to The Daily Beast, Trump's source for that claim was an article from The Gateway Pundit, an inflammatory right-wing publication known for its promotion of conspiracy theories.

That's straight from the Trump handbook of using dodgy data to smear his opponents. This is where Trump is now directing his energy instead of focusing on how to best save lives.

The good media news as Trump tries to drag the national coronavirus conversation into his gutter of personal attacks is that social media and cable TV are providing powerful platforms for voices of science, reason and facts.

Case in point: the sobering Twitter thread that Dr. Tom Inglesby, director of the John Hopkins Center for Health Security, published Monday night in response to Trump's mounting advocacy for lifting stay-at-home restrictions as soon as possible after a 15-day shutdown ends next week.

"Anyone advising the end of social distancing now, needs to fully understand what the country will look like if we do that," Dr. Inglesby wrote. "COVID would spread widely, rapidly, terribly, could kill potentially millions in the yr ahead with huge social and economic impact across the country."

Dr. Inglesby's voice was amplified by thousands on social media.

A parade of scientists, medical doctors and public health officials have appeared on cable channels MSNBC and CNN this week with similar warnings.

Unfortunately, instead of a unified, governmental and scientific war on the virus, as Cuomo and others have been calling for, Trump is trying to lead us back into open warfare with each other.

A divided nation might be good for him and his allies, but not for us at this deadly moment in our nation's life, especially for the most vulnerable among us.

David Zurawik is media critic for the Baltimore Sun.

OBITUARIES

Charles R. 'Chuck' Dill

April 15, 1939 – March 26, 2020

Charles R. "Chuck" Dill, 80, of St. Joseph passed away on Thursday, March 26, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland with his loving family at his side.

Chuck was born on April 15, 1939, to Otto and Margaret (Voelker) Dill in Chicago. He grew up in Evergreen Park, Ill., and graduated from Mendel Catholic High School in 1957. He enlisted in the United State Air Force and proudly served his country for four years before being honorably discharged in 1961. On Sept. 26, 1964, Chuck married the love of his life, Marilyn Escher, at St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Evergreen Park. Following his military service he worked for M. Steffan Co. in Berwyn, Ill. When M. Steffan closed their Berwyn office in 1967, he relocated to their office in Coloma. In 1971, Chuck and Marilyn purchased BH Awning in Benton Harbor. Chuck loved his career and worked well into his 70s.

Chuck was a very generous man who always looked for ways to help his community. He was an active Rotarian in the St. Joseph Rotary Club since 1978. He was also a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Fabrics Association International and St. Joseph Catholic Church, where he served as an usher for more than 30 years. Chuck enjoyed playing golf and tennis at Berrien Hills and South Shore Racquet Club, and every Sunday would volunteer at the Silver Beach Carousel.

Chuck is survived by his wife of 55 years, Marilyn Dill of St. Joseph; children, Susan (Scott) Hooker of Ypsilanti, Mich., Michael (Abby) Dill of Stevensville and Steven (Kiley) Dill of Benton Harbor; grandchildren: Laurel, Meredith, Sam, Nicholas, Ryan and Nikkita; and brothers, James Dill of Oklahoma, Gerald (Arlene) Dill of Illinois and Michael (Gloria) Dill of Arizona.

Chuck was preceded in death by his parents, Otto and Margaret; and sister-in-law, Charlene Dill.

Starks Family Funeral Homes are implementing a new program, "Hugs from Home," that will allow people confined to their homes to share a token of love and support. White balloons will be placed in the chapel with notes from those that call in with messages or from our website.

Due to current circumstances, a private family celebration of life service will be held on Monday. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to Birthright, Caring Circle or the Alzheimer's Association. Those wishing to leave a memorial tribute online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Ronald Charles Waite

March 5, 1940 – March 23, 2020

Ronald Charles Waite, 80, of Lawton passed away in the home he built on March 23, 2020, with his loving family at his side.

No service or visitation has been planned at this time. Cremation has taken place and a military burial will be scheduled at Fort Custer in Augusta, Mich., at a later date. Arrangements are entrusted to Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services. For those who wish to leave a condolence for the family, you may do so at www.purelycremations.org.

Ron was born March 5, 1940, in Lawton, to DeLloyd and Lydia (Kowalski) Waite. After graduating from Lawton High School, he attended Western Michigan University for two years to play baseball, then proudly served in the U.S. Army. Ron married Leony Casicas on May 22, 1987, in Paw Paw. He worked over 30 years for PreCon/Schokbeton as a crew leader, fabricating foundations for stadiums such as the Wings Stadium in Kalamazoo. He enjoyed attending high school sports, gardening and playing poker, golf, ping pong and pickleball. Ron's real passion was raising thoroughbred horses with his brothers for racing. His favorite times were spent with his beloved wife, sons and siblings, enjoying life, playing poker games and golf.

Ron is survived by his wife, Leony; sons, Thomas Erickson, Andrew Waite and Christopher Waite; grandson, Callahan Waite; sister, Joyce (Roger) Baker; and brothers: Del (Valerie) Waite, Harry (Jody) Waite, Dennis Waite, Robert (Michelle) Waite, DeLloyd L. Waite Jr. and Richard Waite.

Ron was preceded by his parents; and brother, Randy Waite.

Marion Kelm

April 30, 1929 – March 25, 2020

Marion Kelm, 90, of St. Joseph passed away Wednesday, March 25, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph.

Private Family Services will be held due to the current health situation, with the Rev. Glenn Rosenbaum officiating. Burial will follow in North Shore Memory Gardens in Coloma. Memorial donations in Marion's name may be made to Grace Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, or The Daughters of the American Revolution-Algonquin Chapter. Those wishing to sign Marion's memory book online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Marion was born April 30, 1929, in Owensboro, Ky., to Alvin and Rachel (Jackson) Hookey. The family moved to Benton Harbor and Marion graduated from Benton Harbor High School, class of 1947. On Sept. 5, 1948, she married LeRoy Kelm in Benton Harbor. He was the love of her life, and she was his, celebrating nearly 72 years together. Having met at Central Docks Skating Rink, they enjoyed many years of roller skating and square dancing. Marion worked in her early years at Saranac Machine Company, and then devoted her life to her husband and children. She served as a den mother when the boys were in Cub Scouts. Marion enjoyed crocheting, knitting, sewing, baking, doing crossword and jigsaw puzzles and spending time with her family and many friends. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in St. Joseph, the Algonquin Chapter of the DAR, and volunteered for many years as an election worker for St. Joseph Charter Township.

Marion is survived by her husband, LeRoy; her children, Kevin (Mary-Ann) Kelm of Stevensville, Tim (Ginger) Kelm of Stevensville and Kristine (Kevin Conklin) Streit of Benton Harbor; six grandchildren: Elizabeth Kelm, Paul (Heather) Kelm, Jason (Cari) Kelm, Amy Kelm, Jamie (Perry) Toth and Michael (Megan Young) Streit; nine great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; and best friend, Jeanne DeSenzio of St. Joseph.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and a brother, Henry Hookey.

Joseph D. GeGiorgio

Dec. 20, 1923 – March 24, 2020

Joseph F. DeGiorgio, 96, of Three Oaks died peacefully on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, in his residence.

Joseph was born Dec. 20, 1923, in Chicago, to Nicholas and Alvera DeGiorgio. He married Madeline M. Iacovetti on Oct. 26, 1946, in Chicago. She preceded him in death Dec. 15, 1985. Joseph and his significant other, Rosemary Nigro, moved to Three Oaks in 1994. She preceded him in death in 2007.

Joseph enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of 17. He served in World War II as a member of the Naval Construction Battalion (SEABEES). He was a plumber for Ambros Plumbing and worked side jobs to put his four children through St. Nicholas of Toletine Catholic School. He spent most of his career working as a caulker for the city of Chicago, retiring July 30, 1979.

Joseph will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by two daughters, Vera C. (Frank W. Murphy) DeGiorgio of Chicago and Celeste T. (Angelo) Hornung of Hickory Hills, Ill.; two sons, Joe N. (Pauline) DeGiorgio of Cumming, Ga., and Nick T. (Janet) DeGiorgio of Berwyn, Ill.; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Joseph was preceded in death by his parents, wife, two sisters, two brothers and significant other.

Family and friends will gather at a later date and a time, yet to be determined. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers contributions be made in memory of Mr. DeGiorgio to the charity of the Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation, 55 West Wacker Dr., Suite 1100, Chicago, IL 60601.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Pobocik Chapel, Wagner Family Funerals, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

Carol Lynn Wesner (Kish)

Aug. 10, 1937 – March 26, 2020

Carol Lynn Wesner (Kish), 82, entered eternal life in heaven on March 26, 2020.

A celebration of Carol's life will be held at a later date. Private graveside services at Riverview Cemetery will be conducted by the Rev. Joshua Bishop of Grace Lutheran Church. Memorial donations in Carol's name may be made to Grace Lutheran Church. Those wishing to sign Carol's Memory Book online may do so at www.Starks-Menchinger.com.

Carol was born Aug. 10, 1937, in Benton Harbor, to Harold and Helen (Mensinger) Wesner. She graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1955 and also graduated magna cum laude from Western Michigan University in 1968. Carol taught English and American literature at Benton Harbor High School in the 1970s. After a stay in Colorado, she returned to Michigan and worked at Whirlpool as an assistant in the law department until her retirement. Carol was a devoted Christian and loved her Lord. She was a founding member of Grace Lutheran Church and was a current member. Carol had a beautiful soprano voice which she shared with many churches and friends through the years. She dearly loved all her family: son, Robert (Sibyl) Kish Jr. and daughter, Kathleen Rice.

Carol is also survived by her sister, Mary Ann Wesner; grandchildren: Brad (Kristin) Kish, Jessica (Michael) Kinney, Kyle Kish, Maria (Michael) Nelson, Michael (Cherita) Rice, Tyler Rice, Katia Rice, Elena Rice and Natalie Call; and great-grandchildren: Brayden, Adeline, Molly, Nolen, Miriam, Coria, Ava, Leonine, Oliver and Piper Lynn. She is also survived by dear friends, Beth Boyer and Jeff and Mary Sue Enders.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Carol will be missed by all who knew her loving spirit. Her memory will live on in our hearts.

Ted Katzbach

April 20, 1944 – March 2, 2020

Ted Katzbach, 75, of Bridgman passed away peacefully on March 2, 2020, at Woodland Terrace of Bridgman from complications of Parkinson's disease. There will be no services. Memorial contributions may be made to Caring Circle.

Ted was born April 20, 1944, in St. Joseph, to Ted and Minnie Ellen Katzbach. Ted graduated from Lakeshore High School, class of 1963. Ted enjoyed literature and American history and earned both a BA and MA from Central Michigan University. Ted enjoyed reading, watching movies and collecting die cast cars. Ted especially enjoyed his yearly trips to Memphis to visit his son, Jeffery, and taking trips with him to various historic sites throughout the South.

Ted was preceded in death by his parents.

Ted is survived by his son, Jeffrey Theodore Katzbach of Paragould, Ark.; and his brother, John Burns of Petaluma, Calif.

Ted is also survived by his friends at CrownPointe of Stevensville, where he resided for the last five years of his life.

Death notices

Terry L. Davis, 63, of Stevensville died March 23, 2020, at home. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Charles R. "Chuck" Dill, 80, of St. Joseph died March 26, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland, St. Joseph. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Rosalie R. Krause, 96, of St. Joseph died March 27, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Melissa C. (Schaffer) Tsunemori, 47, of Denton, Texas, formerly of St. Joseph died March 18, 2020, at home. Mulkey-Bowles-Montgomery Funeral Home, Denton, (940) 382-6622.

Carol Lynn Wesner (Kish), 82, of St. Joseph died March 26, 2020. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Richard L. Wine, 75, of Coloma, died March 26, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Coloma, 468-6000.

Carol Burket Simon Ireland

Jan. 27, 1927 – March 20, 2020

Carol Burket Simon Ireland, formerly of Berrien Springs, died March 20, 2020, in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Carol was born Jan. 27, 1927, in Osceola, Ind., to Norris and Effie (Tharp) Burket. In 1949, Carol married Louis Simon Jr., who predeceased her in 1950. Carol worked at the Osceola branch of Mishawaka National Bank, and it was there she met Eugene R. Ireland. They married in 1956. In 1961, the family moved to Berrien Springs. For 18 years, she was director of Food Service for Berrien Springs Public Schools.

Carol always had a stack of books on the end table. Her love of reading resulted in her serving as the secretary of the Board of Berrien Springs Community Library. She enjoyed singing and was a member of the Sweet Adelines, the women's branch of the Barbershop Chorus-es. Her joy was time spent with her family. She was the queen of rump roasts and black cherry salad. Carol was the family rock, always ready with a smile and a kind word. Carol was a faithful servant to Our Lord and served as treasurer of the Board of Berrien Springs United Methodist Church for many years. "Amazing Grace" was her favorite hymn. She is now living in eternal peace by the amazing grace Our Lord gave her.

Carol is survived by her two daughters, Kathy Simon (Roger) Kesterke of Berrien Springs and Anita Ireland (Scott) Chapman of Lilburn, Ga.; daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Kirk Ireland of Kalamazoo; grandchildren: John (Denise) Kesterke of Walker, Mich., Amy Kesterke (Tim) Kissman of Mason, Mich., and Lauren Ireland, Christopher Ireland and Molly Ireland of Kalamazoo; and great-grandchildren, Autumn and Sage Kissman and Sydney and Jacob Kesterke.

Carol was predeceased by son, Jeffery Dean Ireland in 2008; husband, Gene in 2014; and siblings: Clifford (Lillian), Carl (Edith), Cecil (Bunnie), Dean (Freya), Charles Burket, Doris (Paul) Spake and Kate (George) Walters.

Funeral services will be held at a later date. Memorials may be made to the Berrien Springs Community Library or the Alzheimer's Association, 107 April Dr., Suite 1, Ann Arbor MI 48103. Messages online at www.allredfuneralhome.com.

Melissa Caron (Schaffer) Tsunemori

Jan. 3, 1973 – March 18, 2020

Melissa Caron (Schaffer) Tsunemori, 47, after many years bravely battling cancer, passed away in her north Texas home March 18, 2020.

Melissa was a 1991 graduate of St. Joseph High School and 1994 graduate of Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor. Born in New Haven, Conn., she grew up in Flint, Mich., Petoskey, Mich., and St. Joseph. Melissa loved dogs, trivia, learning/teaching line dancing, Disney, making jewelry, hiking and speaking French. Helping and caring for others was deeply ingrained in her soul, and she actively participated in many charities. She was a member and volunteer instructor at the Cancer Support Community of North Texas.

She is preceded in death by her father, the Rev. John Richard Schaffer.

She is survived by her husband of nine years, Travis; beloved dog, Morgan; mother, Joyce (Schaffer) Platt; brother, Tom Schaffer (Edna); sister, Carisa DeWitt (Peter); niece, Olivia; and nephew, Owen.

Celebrations of life will be planned at a later date due to current world health circumstances. In lieu of flowers, the family requests considering donations in her name to the Cancer Support Community of North Texas or the Berrien County Cancer Service.

Stephen Bryan Zuhl

June 29, 1952 – March 25, 2020

Stephen Bryan Zuhl, 67, of St. Joseph passed away peacefully in his sleep on March 25, 2020.

Steve, as he was known, was the son of the late Dorothy and Frank Zuhl; loving and devoted father of Megan (Raquel) and Andrew Zuhl; and soulmate to Peggy Radom. He is also survived by his loving caregiver and sister, Beverly (Chris) Dasse; and sibling: Scott Zuhl, Dave Zuhl, Jeana Gilliam and Phillip Zuhl.

He was preceded in passing by a sister, Joann Dixon.

Steve was a warrior and was determined to fight the fight of his life. He was a prime example of courage, bravery and determination and was triumphant for many years. He was our hero and will be greatly missed.

Due to the current COVID-19 health concerns, there will be a memorial celebration of Steve's life at a later date. The Calvin Funeral Home in Hartford is assisting the family with arrangements. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

'Baby Shark' song turned hygiene lesson

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sorry parents, "Baby Shark" is making a comeback – for a good cause.

Pinkfong's "Baby Shark" – that jingle earworm that every toddler seems to know – has been reworked to teach good hygiene to combat COVID-19.

The company has debuted the "Wash Your Hands With Baby Shark" video and started a dance challenge to encourage families to upload videos of their children washing hands to the song.

"Wash your hands/doo doo doo doo doo/Wash your hands," go the new lyrics. "Grab some soap/doo doo doo doo doo/Grab some soap." Videos are tagged with #BabySharkHandWash Challenge.

Pinkfong uploaded its original version of "Baby Shark" with an accompanying dance and colorful cartoon video to YouTube in June 2016. It has now been viewed more than 4.6 billion times, making it one of YouTube's top five watched videos of all time.

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DO YOU REMEMBER?

25 years ago - 1995

Named to the Red Arrow Conference all-league volleyball first team were: Andrea Hutchins, Watervliet; Jackie Rodell, Lake Michigan Catholic; Hartford's Betsy Smith and Holly Kuehnle; and Galien's Elicia DeFreez.

35 years ago - 1985

Lakeshore Medical Center, which will be staffed by physicians from the Cedarwood Medical Center in St. Joseph, is scheduled to open April 8. The new center will be located in the former Colonial Real Estate Building on John Beers Road in Lincoln Township.

The center is a joint project of Cedarwood and the Southwestern Michigan Health Care Association and will be staffed by nine physicians from Cedarwood's family practice and internal medicine departments on a rotating basis. Patients at the new center can use their Cedarwood patient identification cards. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m.

50 years ago - 1970

Two south St. Joseph firms, a drive-in auto theater and restaurant, will open under new management April 1.

The two, St. Joe Auto Theater at 4055 Red Arrow Hwy. and Chubby's restaurant nearby at 4023 Red Arrow, have been acquired by Brotman and Herman Theater Co. of Chicago.

Chubby's opens April 1 under the management of Diane Gatchell of Benton Harbor on a 7-day week basis. The auto theater kicks off the outdoor film season the evening of April 3 with "The Reivers" starring Steve McQueen.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Saturday, March 28, the 88th day of 2020. There are 278 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On March 28, 2003, American-led forces in Iraq dropped thousand-pound bombs on Republican Guard units guarding the gates to Baghdad and battled for control of the strategic city of Nasiriyah. President George W. Bush warned of "further sacrifice" ahead in the face of unexpectedly fierce fighting.

On this date:

In 1898, the U.S. Supreme Court, in United States v. Wong Kim Ark, ruled 6-2 that Wong, who was born in the United States to Chinese immigrants, was an American citizen.

In 1930, the names of the Turkish cities of Constantinople and Angora were changed to Istanbul and Ankara.

In 1941, novelist and critic Virginia Woolf, 59, drowned herself near her home in Lewes, East Sussex, England.

In 1942, during World War II, British naval forces staged a successful raid on the Nazi-occupied French port of St. Nazaire in Operation Chariot, destroying the only dry dock on the Atlantic coast capable of repairing the German battleship Tirpitz.

In 1963, the Alfred Hitchcock film "The Birds" premiered in New York.

In 1969, the 34th president of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower, died in Washington, D.C., at age 78.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Showers Likely	Showers Likely	Rain Likely	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Isolated Rain
57°	48°	50° / 39°	43° / 35°	41° / 36°	44° / 37°

Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 100% chance of showers, high temperature of 57°, humidity of 88%. East wind 11 to 15 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a 90% chance of showers, overnight low of 48°. South wind 15 to 23 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise	7:34 a.m.
Sunset	8:07 p.m.
Moonrise	9:51 a.m.
Moonset	Tomorrow

First	Full	Last	New
4/1	4/7	4/14	4/22

Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	56°
Low	40°
Normal High	52°
Normal Low	32°
Record High	78° in 2007
Record Low	19° in 2002

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	1.51"
Normal for month	2.12"
Year to date	6.43"
Normal Year to date	5.29"

Air Quality

Yesterday	45
Main Offender	Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50	Good
51-100	Moderate
101-150	Sensitive
151-200	Unhealthy

Weather Trivia

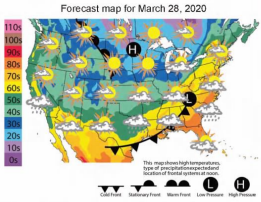
What was the deadliest United States hurricane?

Answer: It occurred in September of 1900 in Galveston, Texas and killed over 8,000 people.

Regional Map

National Weather Map

Forecast map for March 28, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, E wind 10 to 14 kt, with gusts as high as 20 kt. Showers, with thunderstorms also possible. Waves around 1 ft. Water temperature 36 degrees. Tonight, SE wind around 14 kt.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with widespread showers and rain, highs in the 30s and 40s. East northeast wind 8 to 17 mph. Expect cloudy skies Sunday with widespread showers, highs in the 30s and 40s. South wind 7 to 12 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with scattered showers and rain, highs in the 50s. East wind 11 to 15 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Sunday with widespread rain, highs in the 40s and 50s. Southwest wind 23 mph.

Handling mail amid coronavirus: Low risk but wash your hands

By LISA MARIE PANE
Associated Press

Is it safe to pick up your mail? How about those packages from your online orders? And how safe are the people we count on to make those deliveries?

Health experts say the risks are very low that the coronavirus will remain on envelopes or packages and infect anyone who handles them. But those making deliveries are taking steps to try to protect themselves, whether it's no longer requiring signatures for packages or knocking on doors instead of ringing the doorbell.Still, these are uncertain times.

"It's scary not knowing," said Kathy Payne, a postal carrier for 30 years in Rockwood, Tennessee, about 70 miles north of Chattanooga.

"Our biggest thing is the post office can't get hand sanitizer, can't get any supplies."

Payne delivers to more than 800 mailboxes each day. She said her post office constantly wipes down door handles and she sanitizes the large trays where the mail she will deliver is stored.

The Postal Service has provided her with plenty of gloves but not much disinfectant, so she brings a can of Lysol to spray down the trays and mail. She puts on one pair of gloves to sort through and pick up the mail, and then puts on a new pair when she gets into her vehicle. She constantly cleans her steering wheel throughout the day.

"We don't know where they come from, who's touched them," she said of the letters and packages.

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MOHS Micrographic Surgery
Hours: Monday-Friday
8:00AM- 5:00PM
Accepting New Patients and Medicare Assignment

hp LOCAL & STATE

Texas Corral closes Benton Twp. restaurant

Closure stems from disagreement between business owner, landlord

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — The Texas Corral closed permanently in Benton Township due to a disagreement between the business owner and landlord of the property.

The restaurant closed on March 15, however the details surrounding the dispute remains between the two parties involved.

Developer Jim Paul has owned the property since 2003, when he bought the space several years after Red Lobster left Benton Township.

Paul said he did not want to go into the details surrounding the store's closure.

"We couldn't start marketing it until after they were out," Paul said in reference to the property's vacancy. "We are confident we'll secure a tenant for the building."

The 8,500-square-foot building was home to the restaurant chain for 16 years. The business's owner also runs several Texas Corral locations in Michigan and Northern Indiana.

The building has since been cleared out, as Texas Corral only needs to remove two signs and the top pylon sign.

The property at 1830 Pipestone Road had been up for sale for more than a year before Paul bought it in 2003. Negotiations on signing Texas Corral began four months later.

Paul said he had kept an eye on the property for two years before buying it. Paul was still running Fairplain Plaza when he acquired the commercial property.

Paul said he has a package put together to send to several

See CLOSING, page B2

Don Campbell / HP staff

The Texas Corral in Benton Township has closed permanently. The property's owner has begun looking for another sit-down restaurant to take its place at 1830 Pipestone Road.

Don Campbell / HP staff

A sign in downtown St. Joseph Friday encourages people to stay at home and stay safe.

Berrien County prosecutor outlines enforcement of stay home order

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Berrien County Prosecutor Michael Sepic, after consulting on a conference call with a criminal division assistant in the Michigan Attorney General's Office, is providing local authorities with guidance on the enforcement of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Order, 2020-21.

The order, issued Monday, requires Michigan residents to stay at home, with a number of exceptions, in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Sepic is encouraging local law enforcement to demonstrate to the public the importance of the "Stay at Home" Executive Order.

"The reasons and importance in light of the current situation with the coronavirus need not be restated," Sepic said in a news release. "It will be important for law enforcement to follow up on conduct they observe which may be in violation of the order, as well as take complaints from the public. Law enforcement is in a position to educate the public on the importance and the breadth of the order."

Sepic said the attorney general originally believed her office would be in the forefront of enforcement and prosecution of executive order violations, But the order has created far too many questions from the public and local law enforcement for one agency to handle, Sepic said.

So local authorities are being asked to deal with enforcement and prosecution.

Sepic said he has advised local police agencies that a warning is the preferred response to a first violation. But people who ignore or refuse to comply with a warning should be issued a 90-day/$500 misdemeanor citation for non-compliance, the prosecutor said.

If the situation is one that appears to have clear public health consequences, an order by law enforcement to cease and desist that is ignored could result in an arrest for resisting and obstruction a police officer, a 2-year felony, Sepic said. He said some police agencies are already inspecting businesses and issuing warnings.

He said the Attorney General's Office will likely continue to review cases of price gouging.

Sepic said businesses specifically listed in EO 2020-21 as necessary to sustain and preserve life include health care and public health; law enforcement, public safety and first responders; food and agriculture; energy; water and wastewater; transportation and logistics; public works; communications and information technology, including news media; other community-based government operations and essential functions; critical manufacturing; hazardous materials mitigation businesses; financial services; chemical supply chains; and defense industrial base.

Some examples of businesses not specifically listed that may operate, but under some constraints including using a minimum number of workers and complying with social distance requirements include: oil change shops; logging trucks;

See ORDER, page B2

BERRIEN COUNTY TRIAL COURT

Sentences

St. Joseph

Drugs

Demarcus A. Cloy, 38, address unknown, 30 months to 40 years in prison, credit for 126 days served, and $198 in costs for delivery/manufacture of narcotics, less than 50 grams cocaine, July 30, 2019, in Benton Township.

Victoria M. Hampton, 30, of North M-63, Benton Harbor, 160 days in jail, credit for 50 days served, $2,668 in fines and costs and 2 years probation for possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, Sept. 2, 2019, in Sodus Township.

Drunken driving

Knoxell D. Pratt, 57, of Agard Avenue, Benton Harbor, 210 days in jail, credit for 6 days served, and $198 in costs for operating while intoxicated, third offense, June 16, 2019, in Benton Township.

Juan J. Juarez, 50, of 48th Avenue, Watervliet, 120 days in jail, $1,996 in fines and costs, 150 days on SCRAM tether and 2 years probation for operating while intoxicated, second offense, Dec. 30, 2019, in Watervliet Township.

Larceny

Laura L. Ruby, 26, of Pipestone Road, Benton Harbor, 1 day in jail, credit for 1 day served, $198 in costs and $400 in restitution for attempted larceny in a building Jan. 4 at Kentucky Fried Chicken in Benton Township.

Assault

Daniel A. Walton, 28, of Waukonda Avenue, Benton Harbor, 57 months to 10 years in prison, credit for 102 days served, and $198 in costs for assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, an assault on a woman, April 23, 2019, in Benton Township; and a concurrent term of 102 days and $198 in costs for tampering with an electronic device, a jail tether, April 1, 2019, in Benton Harbor.

Albert L. White IV, 30, of East Britain Avenue, Benton Harbor, two consecutive terms of 18 months to 10 years in prison and $798 in costs for carrying a concealed weapon and possession of a firearm by a felon; and a concurrent term of 148 days, credit for 148 days served, for domestic violence, an assault on a woman, Oct. 21, 2019, in Benton Township.

Fleeing/resisting police

William S. Richardson, 29, of South Crystal Avenue, Benton Harbor, 1 year in jail, credit for 93 days served, and $198 in costs for assaulting/resisting and obstructing Benton Township Police Officer Tyler Tiefenbach Dec. 22, 2019, in Benton Township.

Other

Tommy M. Sanders Jr., 28, of West May Street, Benton Harbor, 90 days in jail and $198 in costs for tampering with an electronic device, a jail tether, Dec. 16, 2019, in Benton Harbor.

Kimberly Ruth-Ann Molter, 53, of Biastock Road, Benton Harbor, 58 days in jail, credit for 58 days served, $1,118 in fines and costs and 1 year probation for unlawful use of a motor vehicle Jan. 26 in

See SENTENCES, page B2

Ask a Cop

DANIEL UNRUH
Bridgman Chief of Police

Use horse sense on the roads

I own horses in Coloma Township. I often harness them up and have them pull a cart on the road. I have professionally trained horses that are traffic safe. When I'm on the road with them for the most part drivers are safe when near us. They pass with a wide space between us and them and some even slow down and I appreciate that. Every now and then we'll get someone that is really disrespectful and even dangerous, passing too close, honking their horn, pulling dangerously close in front of us and slowing down. My horses have held it together so far, but I know even the best trained horses can spook. In light of all the Amish families moving to the area and the number of accidents happening already, how do I handle this situation when someone drives in a dangerous manner near my horse?

Sheila, Coloma

Hello Sheila, thanks for your question and I hope I can give you some answers.

In researching this topic, I was able to find the following:

Horseless carriages now dominate the roads of the world, but occasionally a driver may meet a horse-drawn carriage or a horseback rider on the road. Simple measures help keep all parties safe.

Under Michigan law (Section 257.604 of the Michigan Vehicle Code), "A person riding an animal or driving an animal-drawn vehicle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all the duties, criminal penalties, and civil sanctions applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter, except those provisions of this chapter which by their very nature may not have application."

In simple words, when riding horses and operating horse-drawn carriages, they are considered vehicles on Michigan roads, with the same rights and responsibilities. There is no age limit, so people of any age may legally ride on a roadway.

Only after dismounting is the rider considered a pedestrian and the horse an animal. Horses can be ridden on all roads unless otherwise indicated. Some cities or townships may have local ordinances restricting the use of animals on their public roadways or in their parks.

Some ride or drive quiet country roads where few motor vehicles travel. Sometimes a rider or carriage driver must

See ASK A COP, page B2

Whitmer: No golf, but laundromats OK

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said Thursday that golf courses and tobacco shops should close for three weeks to abide by her stay-at-home order.

The guidance was the latest declaration to businesses and operations looking for clarity related to the measure that took effect this week amid the COVID-19 crisis.

It had not been clear if Whitmer's order applied to golf courses.

Whitmer's office also said 10-cent bottle returns are temporarily off-limits, even if they are in grocery and convenience stores that remain open. Landscaping, lawn care, tree service and irrigation companies may not operate, either, except to "maintain and improve the safety, sanitation and essential operations of a residence."

Cigar bars, vape shops and hookah lounges also cannot stay open. Laundromat and coin-laundry employees are allowed to work, according to an updated question-and-answer memo on the state website.

Whitmer told reporters Thursday that the vast majority of businesses are "doing the right thing" and keeping workers home. She said her orders are "pretty clear" but acknowledged there may be areas of uncertainty.

"I would encourage any business that is not sure if they're life-sustaining to probably assume that they're not," the governor said.

Her order exempts "critical infrastructure" workers from having to stay home – those in fields such as health care, law enforcement, food and agriculture, financial services and government. Also exempted are employees needed to maintain inventory and equipment, care for animals, ensure security, process transactions – including payroll and employee benefits – or facilitate the ability of other employees to work remotely.

CLOSING

From page B1

national restaurants.

"We're going to start contacting potential tenants," Paul said. "We will be talking to local businesses, regional restaurants and national chains. I really think this area could explode."

He said the plan is to find another sit-down restaurant.

Paul cited a recent demographic study based on area incomes for his optimism. The study, Paul said, showed the Benton Township retail district could support another $40 million in retail and restaurant sales.

Benton Township Building Inspector Chris Fuchs said it's a shame that Texas Corral left, but hopes to see another restaurant come in its place.

"There are so many good hotels in the area and a need for good restaurants," Fuchs said Friday. "To see that close was tough to see."

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

ORDER

From page B1

fixing farm machinery; deliveries, if a permissible activity such as food or medications; medical marijuana stores; construction of and repair of roads; and craft stores supplying mask materials.

Some examples of businesses that cannot open to the public are: residential construction; door-to-door sales; golf courses; landscaping nurseries; florists; and pet stores that deal exclusively with pets.

However, Sepic said some of these businesses may fall under exceptions that allow them to conduct minimum business operations "to maintain the value of inventory and equipment, care for animals, ensure security, process transactions (including payroll and employee benefits), or facilitate the ability of other workers to work remotely."

Questions about EO 2020-21 enforcement should be directed to local law enforcement agencies using non-emergency phone numbers.

Businesses and operations must determine which of their workers are necessary to conduct minimum basic operations and inform such workers of that designation.

Such designations may be made orally until 11:59 p.m. March 31, but after that must be made in writing, whether by hard copy, electronic message, public website or other appropriate means, but under the constraints of EO 2020-21 using a minimum number of workers and complying with social distance requirements:

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, twitter@hpswidwa

SENTENCES

From page B1

Bainbridge Township.

Elizabeth A. Klank, 44, of Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman, 58 days in jail, credit for 58 days served, $2,338 in fines and costs, $5,992 in restitution and 18 months probation for uttering and publishing a false, forged, altered or counterfeit record, a check, between Oct. 29 and Nov. 1, 2019, in Lincoln Township.

Bryan G. Kelley, 21, of Dixon, Mo., 90 days in jail, credit for 58 days served, and $198 in costs for possession of a firearm by a felon Jan. 26 in Benton Township.

Niles

Computer crimes

Quantell J. Verse, 31, of South Fifth Street, Niles, 4 days in jail, credit for 4 days served, $738 in fines and costs, 1 year probation and 100 hours community service for attempted use of a computer to commit a crime Dec. 2, 2019, in Niles.

Fleeing/resisting police

Diamond R. King, 34, no permanent address, 56 days in jail, credit for 56 days served, and $198 in costs for fourth-degree fleeing police Jan. 28 in Niles Township.

Larceny

Robert L. Gray, 41, of Manistee, $648 in fines and costs, $1,756 in restitution for larceny in a building, Oct. 27, 2013, in Niles Township.

Sex crimes

Jordan T. Stockdale, 19, of East Bertrand Road, Niles, $2,198 in fines and costs for distributing sexually explicit material to a child June 19, 2019, in Niles Township.

Assault

Jeffrey R. Moll, 53, of East Ferry Street, Niles, 75 days in jail, credit for 69 days served, $598 in fines and costs, 120 days on tether and 3 years probation for attempted assault with a dangerous weapon, an assault on a man with an automobile, Aug. 20, 2019, in Niles.

IN BRIEF

Berrien COVID-19 cases now at 18

The number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Berrien County jumped to 18 on Friday, up from 11 reported Thursday.

Van Buren County now has three positive cases, and Cass County still has one, according to numbers released by the state Friday afternoon.

Health officials have said the numbers could be much higher because only those with serious symptoms are being tested as the number of tests is limited.

The Van Buren Cass District Health Department will provide updates on its website, www.vbcassdhd.org/covid-19.

The Berrien County Health Department will provide updates on its website, www.bchdmi.org, on social media, and at its hotline, 1-800-815-5485.

Chimney issue leads to roof damage

STEVENSVILLE — Damage to a house in Stevensville after fire ripped through the roof is estimated to be between $150,000 and $175,000, according to Lincoln Township Fire Department Chief Brandon Chiarello.

Firefighters were called at 1:48 a.m. Friday to the house at 5230 Ridge Road, and arrived at 1:53 a.m. to find flames shooting through the roof. Chiarello said firefighters stretched a hose through the garage door while others made access to the roof. The fire was contained mainly to the roof and attic space of the residence, and was under control at about 2:18 a.m., Chiarello said.

Crews remained on the scene to search for hot spots, he said. The name of the homeowner was not released.

Chiarello said the cause of the fire was determined to be issues with the chimney.

Lincoln Township firefighters were assisted by Royalton Township Fire Department, St. Joseph Department of Public Safety, Lincoln Township police and Medic 1.

ASK A COP

From page B1

travel along a busier road in order to access a quieter destination.

When riding along a road, unexpected hazards may occur. Cars and motorcycles move very quickly, often noisily, sometimes with stones flying up.

As you mentioned, most drivers are considerate and slow down, allowing plenty of space as they pass. But unfortunately, some do not. Bicycle riders, joggers, and pedestrians can empathize with this point.

Drivers may not be aware of horses' nature and do not realize that a potential spook may be dangerous to all parties. Some drivers are completely clueless and drive by very closely, even beep their horns or rev engines as they pass.

Here are a couple of recommendations: Know what kind of road shoulders are along your planned route. Is there room to distance yourself from traffic? Wear highly visible gear and a slow-moving vehicle sign on your carriage.

When or if you encounter a disrespectful or careless motorist while riding, try to obtain a good description of the vehicle, driver and license plate information if possible, rather than confronting them. Contact the police and furnish the vehicle's direction of travel as well. A lot of times, officers are able to locate vehicles while on their way to meet with a complainant.

Again, I hope this helps, enjoy yourself and please stay safe.

Send in your questions about the law; get an answer from those who enforce it. Email your question to AskACop@TheHP.com and it may be featured in an article.

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hp BUSINESS

Berrien County teacher named ag educator of the year

By HP STAFF

BENTON HARBOR — The Michigan Farm Bureau named Steve Rigoni of Countryside Academy in Benton Harbor as its educator of the year.

The educator of the year will receive a scholarship to attend the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference as well as a $500 classroom grant from the Michigan Foundation for Agriculture.

Rigoni brings his previous agricultural work experience into his high school classroom at Countryside Academy.

Having grown up on a farm and worked in agribusiness for several years, he shares his experiences raising cherries, peaches, grapes, asparagus and other commodities with his students daily.

His line up of agricultural courses include Botany, Zoology, Fundamentals of Agriculture while also incorporating food science, natural resources and wildlife management concepts.

Rigoni designed the school's educational barn, structuring the pens, water systems, lighting, temperature controls and storage to handle many livestock species throughout the school year.

Here, students can engage in animal care and handling, from birth through exhibiting at the Berrien County Youth Fair, as a portion of their agriculture courses.

Rigoni leads students through propagating flower and vegetable plants from seed. Eventually, students take these plants home to raise food for their families.

"Mr. Rigoni is a teacher, mentor, adviser and role model for his students," Ed Kretchman, Berrien County Farm Bureau president, said in a news release. "When his students began building animal pens, it was obvious most students had never used construction tools. With his patient instruction, they finished one shelter and started another. Mr. Rigoni has a kind, thoughtful mentoring style that can draw the best out of his students."

Through Rigoni's leadership, his students' learning has extended beyond their in-class experiences. The students have assisted with Farmer for a Day and Garden of Education at the Youth Fair.

High school students partnered with third- through fifth-grade students to raise and release pheasants on a wildlife land plot designed to provide food and shelter for the birds.

MFB's educator of the year award recognizes teachers who excel at integrating agriculture and natural resource concepts into school curriculum and who challenge students to develop critical thinking skills through the analysis of agricultural issues and information. Teachers are nominated annually by county Farm Bureaus for this award.

The award will be presented at MFB's 101st State Annual Meeting in December.

Are gun shops 'essential' businesses?

By LISA MARIE PANE and JIM VERTUNO
Associated Press

Keith Srakocic / AP

Andrea Schry, right, fills out the buyer part of legal forms to buy a handgun as shop worker Missy Morosky fills out the vendors parts after Dukes Sport Shop reopened, Wednesday, in New Castle, Pa. under the new conditions specified for gun stores. The store had closed last week when Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf ordered a shut down of non-essential businesses to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

In some parts of the U.S., authorities say gun shops aren't essential businesses and should close during stay-at-home orders meant to slow the coronavirus. In other places, officials are stopping background checks for concealed carry permits. Elsewhere, city leaders have invoked emergency powers allowing bans on gun sales.

As the nation grapples with a pandemic that has upended daily life, some gun rights advocates are concerned about an erosion of Second Amendment rights just as Americans are buying firearms in record numbers to try to ensure their safety.

"When there's a national emergency, people are looking for food, water, shelter – that part is important to the survival of our nation," said Michael Cargill, owner of Central Texas Gun Works in Austin. "They are also looking for the Second Amendment to protect their families."

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton agrees, issuing a legal opinion Friday saying that emergency orders in his state can't restrict gun sales. Any order that excludes gun stores from "essential" businesses that can stay open are in conflict with state law banning limits on gun sales, Paxton said.

"Under our laws, every Texan retains their right to purchase and possess firearms," he said.

In recent weeks, firearm sales have skyrocketed. Background checks – the key barometer of gun sales – already were at record numbers in January and February, likely fueled by a presidential election year. Since the coronavirus outbreak, gun shops have reported long lines and runs on firearms and ammunition.

Background checks were up 300 percent on March 16, compared with the same date a year ago, according to federal data shared with the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which represents gunmakers. Since Feb. 23, each day has seen roughly double the volume over 2019, according to Mark Oliva, spokesman for the group.

"When people aren't able to provide for their own security or their own safety, they're going to take measures to make sure that they can. That's why we have that Second Amendment," Oliva said. "This is a public safety issue."

The federal background check system has been overwhelmed by the massive increase in firearm sales. What might normally take a few minutes is taking much longer, and a backlog on background checks has ballooned to about 80,000, Oliva said.

If a background check takes longer than three business days, gun dealers are permitted to allow the sale to go through unless a state has stricter waiting periods. But the National Shooting Sports Foundation has advised gun dealers not to feel beholden to complete the sale if they have concerns about the potential buyer.

"We are cautioning retailers that they may want to exercise patience and prudence," Oliva said.

Even some gun control advocates say it might not be wise to shut down federally licensed firearms dealers, whose sales require background checks. That could force buyers to use a website or seek a private sale that doesn't require a check, making it more difficult to trace a firearm if it's used in a crime.

There are risks to both closing a gun shop or keeping it open, said David Chipman, a retired agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

"If you keep it open, there's the risk of first-time buyers who are largely buying out of fear and panic and untrained," said Chipman, now senior policy adviser for Giffords, a gun control advocacy group.

Gun control advocates are concerned about a large number of new owners lacking the usual access to training on how to store and handle their weapon properly. They also worry that Americans who are stocking up now eventually will sell their firearms privately.

"If we can imagine how horrible this crisis is ... the people who hoarded the guns might decide six months from now – once they see no zombies around but they've run out of tuna and beef jerky – that they need the money to buy food," Chipman said.

In a number of U.S. cities, including New Orleans, the mayor has issued an emergency proclamation that declares the authority to restrict sales of firearms and ammunition.

In some states that have ordered people to stay home, gun stores were not among the businesses deemed essential and allowed to stay open, like grocery stores.

That has led to confusion in California, where for the second time this week, Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva ordered gun shops to close, challenging a finding by the legal counsel for the nation's most populous county that the stores are essential businesses. A variety of gun-rights groups on Friday filed a federal lawsuit against the sheriff and state authorities.

David Prince, owner of Eagle Gun Range in Farmers Branch, Texas, near Dallas, who temporarily closed his store under Dallas County's stay-at-home order, then was allowed to reopen Wednesday when gun stores were reclassified locally as essential while the state awaited Paxton's decision.

Prince said gun stores are critical because they give people the chance to defend themselves.

"I always knew people were going to want to protect themselves. What I was concerned about was the look in their faces, they are covered in fear," Prince said. "If I give them the ability to have a firearm, it gives them a fighting chance to defend their family."

The range that is part of his store is considered nonessential and has been forced to close, meaning new gun buyers can't use it to train on how to handle their firearm.

Restaurants, trying to stay afloat, revamp operations

By DAN SEWELL
Associated Press

CINCINNATI — In the battle to keep their New York City restaurant going despite sharp restrictions during the coronavirus outbreak, the owners of Il Posto Accanto tried something Beatrice Tosti di Valminuta would have considered sacrilege in normal times.

That was offering their traditional Italian dishes for delivery "which never, never, never, ever, ever, ever happened before," she said. "I like my food to go from the kitchen to the table, and that's it!"

On Friday, she said she and husband Julio Pena decided to suspend operations for now because employees were wary of being out in New York City as it has become the U.S. epicenter of the contagion.

"We respect their feelings," she said. "It's not like we were making money."

Across the United States, restaurateurs are transforming operations to try to stay afloat. The National Restaurant Association warns the outbreak could cost 5 million to 7 million jobs and hundreds of billions in losses and is pushing for a special federal relief package for restaurants.

In an industry of traditionally tight profit margins, some decided it's time to take chances.

Westmont Diner in Westmont, New Jersey, has added it to carry-out options at 60 cents a roll, along with paper towels, soap, bleach and other household needs. Lindey's in Columbus, Ohio, throws in a free roll with all take-out orders. Frontier in Chicago gave out decks of cards to homebound customers with their carry-out dinners.

In New York, Tosti said leftover meals will be given to city firefighters. She said the restaurant's future after some 15 years of operation will depend on how long quarantining and edicts against in-restaurant dining last.

"I'm better at taking it one day at a time," said the Rome-born restaurateur. "We can hope for a better day."

Choosing the right CRM platform for your business

SCORE

This column is provided by SCORE, an organization dedicated to helping small businesses start, grow and succeed. The local SCORE chapter provide free and confidential mentoring in management, accounting, marketing and business plan preparation.

Customer relationship management (CRM) systems offer technology to streamline a company's ability to interact with current and future customers.

You can find a variety of CRM platforms on the market to help you automate, organize and synchronize your marketing sales, customer service and technical support activities and data.

All CRMs come with their advantages and disadvantages, so how can you know which one is the best fit for your small business?

"The cost of acquiring a new customer is always much greater than retaining an existing customer," explains SCORE mentor and business development expert Wilson Chu. "Therefore, it is so important to collect and analyze data on your existing customer base so that you can use this data to retain and grow sales to these customers. CRM systems should allow you to collect the most useful data about your customers.

"For example, I met a company called Back Office Thinking that uses CRM to track and manage donors for nonprofit organizations. Their objective is to encourage/cultivate a first time donor to ultimately become a donor that puts the nonprofit into their will. In order to do this, you need data on the donor such as age, finances, family, etc."

When deciding on a CRM for your small business, ask yourself these questions to help you narrow down the options that will best serve your company:

■ What is the most important thing I need it to accomplish?

For example: increase qualified leads, improve customer service interaction, organize contacts, track interactions and transactions, etc.?

■ What systems do I need it to interface with?

For example: your email platform, accounting system, contacts platform, calendar, etc.?

■ How many users must it accommodate?

■ Is it capable of growing with your company? What will it cost to add users?

■ How much maintenance will it require?

If you have a system that involves premise-based hardware, find out what it will take to keep its features and functionality updated and to scale it as your company grows.

■ Can it be accessed conveniently?

Will your sales team be able to enter and update information about leads and customers remotely from their desktop and wireless devices? Accessibility to your system no matter where your team members are will help prevent important information from slipping through the cracks.

■ Will data synchronize automatically between all devices and systems that interface with your CRM?

If data isn't synced automatically, depending on when your team members are looking at data and what system they're using, they may not be seeing up-to-date information.

■ What changes in my business might I need it to accommodate in the future?

Think about your expectations related to adding staff, growing your base of prospects and customers, diversifying the products and services you offer, providing more billing options, etc.

■ Is a free demo available so I can get a feel for its capabilities and ease of use?

Getting some hands-on time with a CRM can give you a better idea of how easy it is to navigate and the efficiency it might provide.

According to Chu, "The CRM system/software a small business chooses must be able to collect the proper information, be able to analyze that data, and report it in a format that can be used in the company's customer service, sales, and marketing efforts to cultivate its customer base."

While the vast majority of CRMs for small businesses are cloud-based offerings, they still require a notable investment of money and time.

You'll want to carefully decide on the solution that's right for your business so you make the best use of your human and financial resources.

For insight about the different administrative and operational aspects of your business that you might streamline with a CRM, consider talking with a mentor at your local SCORE chapter.

Fed decision to slash benchmark rate to near zero hurts those seeking investments

Michelle Singletary

The go-to strategy when a financial crisis hits is for the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates. The theory is that, by making borrowing cheaper, consumers will help rev up the economy by buying stuff on credit.

But this quick fix has seriously hurt savers, especially those retirees who have sheltered their hard-earned savings away from the stock market. And as the Dow Industrial average continues its hair-raising volatility, more retirees will likely flee to bank-deposit accounts. However, with interest rates now at rock bottom, these savers will be exposed to another major risk – inflation.

The government's fiscal policies punish savers, asserts Sharon Kimball, who retired from the federal government in 2018 after almost 30 years. Kimball, 66, is a regular reader who has long stayed away from investing in equities. For her retirement account under the federal Thrift Savings Plan, she put all her contributions in the G fund, which is invested in short-term U.S. Treasury securities.

Kimball's other retirement savings have all been placed in certificates of deposit (CDs). The Virginia resident said she just couldn't stomach the roller-coaster ride of investing in stocks or mutual funds. Her hope was for the CDs to produce just enough interest to offset any impact of inflation.

Rates on CDs and money market deposit accounts, which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC), were pretty puny before the spread of COVID-19. But things are about to get even worse for savers who have sought refuge in these federally backed accounts.

"I understand that people, including my children and myself, need to be able to borrow at rates they can afford," Kimball said. "But it has seemed to me that there is little to no appetite for rewarding those who scrimp and save over the years. Some of my CDs in the latter years of my working life were earning 0.05 percent. How can you retire on that?"

Just a few decades ago, it was commonplace to see double-digit returns on CDs. But the downside was that relatively high inflation outpaced the gains in purchasing power.

At one point, in the early 2000s, Kimball was happily getting as much as 5 percent on her CDs, she said.

But in response to the 2008 financial crisis, the Fed dropped the federal funds rate, and savings yields soon plummeted – falling below 1 percent.

Kimball was content when CD rates finally began to climb back, and she celebrated when yields surpassed 2 percent. On April 1, 2010, the average five-year CD was paying 2.12 percent, according to Bankrate.com.

A year ago, if you put $2,000 in a one-year CD, the average interest rate was a measly 0.98 percent, earning just $19.60. If you wanted to lock in your money for five years, you could get about 1.5 percent.

As of last week, the average rate for a 12-month CD rate had fallen to 0.57 percent, with a payout on $2,000 of $11.40, Bankrate.com found. The rate for a five-year CD was 0.86 percent. Now compare those rates with the annual inflation rate, which in February was 2.3 percent.

"CD yields are in a full-on retreat, given how the Fed has been aggressively cutting interest rates since the beginning of March," said Greg McBride, chief financial analyst at Bankrate.com. "Yields are falling, and they're going to continue to fall."

McBride recommends that if you're trying to eke out every bit of interest on a deposit account, shop around for the best rates. Look at institutions that may only have an online presence but are still backed by the FDIC.

I'm hearing from so many people who are either already retired or are close to retirement. These folks are worried that they don't have the time to wait for a recovery in the stock market. They're stuck between a rock (low deposit rates) and a hard place (a bear market).

Kimball and her husband acknowledge that they're in better shape than many of their peers to weather the current economic storm:

- They don't have a mortgage.
- They don't have credit card debt.
- They still have a bit of their money in the stock market, recognizing that they could live three or four decades in retirement, and their future financial needs would require that they still invest for some growth. Kimball's husband, Bob, has about 20 percent of his own TSP savings in the stock market. "My hope is that this will be a one- or two-year blip and that the economy will ultimately recover," he said.
- They lived well below their means and saved as much as they could, Sharon Kimball said, adding, "Although I'm scared to death because I'm old, we were saving for something horrible. And Holy Toledo, here it is."

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichelleSingletary).

Ask the Fool

Bear Market, Defined

Q I hear the stock market entered a "bear market" — how is that determined? — *C.M., Cincinnati*

A It's all a matter of degree. When the stock market's overall value drops (from its high point) by 10%, that's considered a "correction," suggesting that the market had gotten ahead of itself and has self-corrected. When the overall value falls by 20% or more, that's a bear market.

Bear markets can last from weeks to years, so money you'll need within a few years shouldn't be held in stocks. As a long-term investor, you can wait for the recovery that (historically speaking) always follows. You might even buy more stock while prices are low.

***

Q If I'm in the 22% tax bracket, I'm not paying 22% on all my income, am I? — *P.Z., online*

A Not at all. That's your "marginal" tax bracket, meaning that your next dollar of income will be taxed at that rate. Federal tax brackets change over time, but for the 2019 and 2020 tax years, there are seven; they tax income at 10%, 12%, 22%, 24%, 32%, 35% and 37%.

So if you're single and your taxable income for 2019 is $55,000, you'd pay 10% on your first $9,700 of income (that's $970), 12% on your income from $9,701 to $39,475 ($3,573), and 22% on your income from $39,476 to $55,000 ($3,415). (That 22% bracket covers income up to $84,200, by the way.) Add those three sums, and they come to a total tax of $7,958. Divide that by your taxable income of $55,000, and you'll see that you paid 14.5% of your income in federal taxes. That's your effective tax rate, reflecting your total taxation, and it's more meaningful than your marginal rate.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.

The Motley Fool

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Fool's School

Meet the Taxpayer Bill of Rights

When April rolls around each year — or July, this year — you might feel like it's just you, alone, against the massive Internal Revenue Service, and that you're powerless if you have any problems or grievances. Not so — you have the Taxpayer Bill of Rights!

As the IRS explains: "Each and every taxpayer has a set of fundamental rights they should be aware of when dealing with the IRS. Explore your rights and our obligations to protect them." Here are the 10 rights you have, with a few excerpts from explanations:

- The right to be informed: "Taxpayers ... are entitled to clear explanations of the laws and IRS procedures in all tax forms, instructions, publications, notices and correspondence."
- The right to quality service: "Taxpayers have the right to receive prompt, courteous and professional assistance in their dealings with the IRS, to be spoken to in a way they can easily understand, to receive clear and easily understandable communications ..."
- The right to pay no more than the correct amount of tax.
- The right to challenge the IRS' position and be heard.
- The right to appeal an IRS decision in an independent forum.
- The right to finality: "Taxpayers have the right to know the maximum amount of time they have to challenge the IRS' position as well as the maximum amount of time the IRS has to audit a particular tax year or collect a tax debt."
- The right to privacy.
- The right to confidentiality.
- The right to retain representation.
- The right to a fair and just tax system: "Taxpayers have the right to expect the tax system to consider facts and circumstances that might affect their underlying liabilities, ability to pay or ability to provide information (in a) timely (manner). Taxpayers have the right to receive assistance from the Taxpayer Advocate Service if they are experiencing financial difficulty or if the IRS has not resolved their tax issues properly ..."

Know your rights!

My Dumbest Investment

Get a Load of This

My dumbest investment was when I got talked into buying shares of a mutual fund with a 5% load and a 1.25% annual fee. I did the math after few years, comparing the large-cap mutual fund to a simple index fund based on the S&P 500, and learned that I'd given away thousands of dollars.

I'm glad I learned those lessons in my mid-20s. Now I don't trust anyone trying to sell me anything. — *C.B., online*

The Fool Responds: Over long periods, most actively managed mutual funds (those with highly paid professionals choosing what to buy and sell, and when) underperform the overall market. It makes more sense for most of us to just stick with index funds, which tend to perform better for lower fees.

Whatever kind of mutual fund you buy into, it's also best to avoid those charging a "load," which is a sales fee that can be front-loaded (you pay it when buying shares), back-loaded (you pay when you sell) or even ongoing (you pay each year). Loads can be as high as 8.5%. If you plunk $3,000 into a fund with a 5% front-end load, $150 will be lopped off in fees, with only $2,850 going into the fund on your behalf.

There are lots of good no-load funds, so give them preference. And look for low annual fees, too — ideally well under 1%. Many index funds charge less than 0.2%.

The Motley Fool Take

Underwear for Your Portfolio?

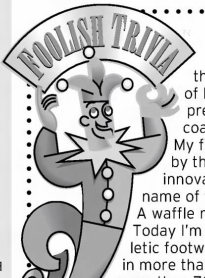
Shares of Hanesbrands (NYSE: HBI) were recently down more than 50% from their 52-week high, presenting a buying opportunity for long-term investors.

The market may be worried about the sluggish innerwear segment (not to mention the COVID-19 pandemic disrupting economies globally), but the innerwear and activewear company has been growing, not shrinking, with total sales up by 2% in 2019.

Management has spent the last few years stabilizing the weak performance of the innerwear business while focusing on where to improve sales growth and drive faster growth. It has been controlling costs and allocating resources to drive better returns for investors — reflected in the 13% year-over-year increase in adjusted earnings in its fourth quarter. Future performance is expected to be even better.

The highlight of the business is the Champion brand, with sales up 22% year over year in the fourth quarter. It's now a $1.9 billion brand (roughly a quarter of total revenue) and still has tremendous potential for long-term growth. From 2013 to 2018, international revenue rose from 11% of total sales to 34%, while consumer-direct sales jumped 9% to 22%.

Hanesbrands' stock offers a solid dividend that recently yielded 6.5%, and its price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio was a low 5.5. The recent sell-off offers a good chance to buy this value stock at rock-bottom prices.



Name That Company

I trace my roots back to the 1964 founding in Oregon of Blue Ribbon Sports, my precursor, by an accomplished coach and one of his athletes. My first store opened in 1966, and by the early 1970s, I was selling innovative track shoes bearing the name of the Greek goddess of victory. A waffle maker inspired my early soles. Today I'm a global giant focused on athletic footwear, apparel and more. I rake in more than $40 billion annually, employ more than 70,000 people worldwide, and own brands such as Converse, Hurley and Jordan. Who am I?

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots way back to 1816, when some businessmen met in a tavern and formed a company to build a public water supply – for homes and for fighting fires. I first used bored-out logs as pipes, later switching to cast iron. Still based in York, Pennsylvania, I sport a market value recently around $500 million. I've paid 596 consecutive dividends, never missing one in more than 200 years – possibly the longest record of consecutive dividends in the U.S. I'm also the oldest publicly traded company in the nation. Who am I? (Answer: York Water)

Want to Invest? Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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How to create a retirement paycheck that lasts

Liz Weston

Saving and investing for retirement may actually be easier than deciding how to safely spend what you've accumulated.

Withdraw too much and you could run out of money. Withdraw too little and you might stint on some retirement pleasures you could actually afford. Taxes and Medicare premiums should be considered, too, since both could be inflated by the wrong withdrawal strategies.

Financial planners use powerful software to model various ways to tap retirement funds so they can recommend the best options for their clients. Recently, some companies introduced similar software that consumers can use to find the most tax-efficient, sustainable strategies.

I kicked the tires on a few of these products and found they were pretty impressive – but not foolproof. The programs won't necessarily save you from yourself if you make certain mistakes, such as underestimating your life expectancy or claiming Social Security too early. Since mistakes could be irreversible, even the most avid do-it-yourselfer should consult with an expert – either the human advisors each service offers or a fee-only certified financial planner who specializes in guiding people through retirement decisions.

Schwab intelligent income

Schwab's "retirement paycheck" option, which launched in January, is an extension of its robo-advisor, Schwab Intelligent Portfolios, which invests using computer algorithms. Schwab Intelligent Income uses hundreds of market simulations to analyze how accounts enrolled in its robo-advisor might perform and to project how much retirees can afford to withdraw each month. The service also advises which accounts to tap and when and factors in users' tax brackets, required minimum withdrawals and how their money is distributed among taxable, tax-advantaged and tax-free accounts. Users can set up automatic transfers so the money is deposited at regular intervals in their chosen accounts.

Schwab doesn't charge management fees for the robo-advisor or the retirement income service. Schwab also offers a premium service that includes human advice. For a $300 setup fee and $30 a month, Schwab Intelligent Portfolio clients can get unlimited access to a certified financial planner and an online tool to create a customized financial plan that includes other sources of income, such as Social Security and pensions.

Income strategy

Like the other services, Income Strategy suggests what accounts to tap when and how much to withdraw. But the tool, which debuted last year, also offers seemingly infinite ways to tweak and compare strategies. And you don't have to move your money – Income Strategy works no matter where your accounts happen to be.

If you're the type who creates spreadsheets to determine how much of your traditional IRA to convert to a Roth each year to avoid triggering Medicare income-related adjustment amounts – or if you understand what those words even mean – then Income Strategy may be right up your alley.

If the above paragraph is Greek to you, your learning curve may be a little steep. You can, however, start with a free tool that asks you a few questions, then issues a report to give you an idea of how Income Strategy can help you "get more and keep more" of your retirement funds. If you decide to proceed with the main tool and get stuck, Income Strategy has specialists who, for an hourly fee, can guide you through the process. Or you can opt for subscription packages that provide even more help, up to and including managing your money for you.

The basic subscription is $20 a month, but numbers geeks likely will want to upgrade to the $50 "premier" subscription for more flexibility. A "premier bundle" for $1,500 includes a year's premier subscription plus an hourlong training session, multiple consultations and an annual review. For an asset management fee starting at 0.8 percent (and dropping for portfolios over $1 million), Income Strategy's affiliated registered investment advisor will take over investing your money and implementing your plan.

Kindur

Kindur, which launched last year, offers a free tool to estimate your retirement costs (including health care), see how much income you'll need to cover essential and optional spending, recommend when to collect Social Security, then calculate how long your money is likely to last.

For $99 a year, Kindur's SmartDraw product can create a personalized withdrawal plan that includes all your accounts plus an annual review by a certified financial planner. Two levels of premium services including more tools and more frequent check-ins are also available.

If Social Security and pensions won't cover your basic expenses, Kindur recommends guaranteeing more income using a commission-free income annuity it created with insurance partner American Equity. Kindur also offers investment management for 0.5 percent annually, a service that includes SmartDraw as well as access to a certified financial planner.

hp SPORTS

Bluebirds arrive in SW Michigan

Outdoors, Page C5

BCS boys basketball all-conference teams released

By HP STAFF

The Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph Conference's all-conference boys basketball selections were released on Friday and several area athletes made the cut.

Buchanan's Logan Carson and Chris Young were named first-team All-Red division, with Carson named the Red division's MVP for his hand in the Bucks' 7-3 (18-3) season. Bridgman's Hunter Adams and Jayce Warren, Brandywine's Kendall Chrismon and Jordan Abrams, and Berrien Springs' Jackson Glanzer were also named to the All-Red Division team.

All-Red Honorable Mention honorees include Brandywine's Carson Knapp, Caleb Byrd, and Shane Brown, Bridgman's Luke Blesy and Jackson Schmaltz, Buchanan's Gavin Fazi and Bradley Vanoverberghe, and Berrien Springs' Byron Tate.

River Valley had a trio of players earn All-White honors in Lennon Lange, Matthew Schmidt, and Will Korbel. The trio helped propel the Mustangs to a 14-0 (18-3) record and their first league title since winning the Lakeland Conference crown in 1992-93.

New Buffalo's Kaden Parmley and Anthony Lijewski, Lawrence's Brandon Lopez and Kaleb Smith, and Lake Michigan Catholic's Jake Koenig round out the first-team honorees. Jason Jergens of Howardsville Christian was named All-White MVP.

The All-White Honorable Mentions include New Buffalo's Mark Shaw and Nate Tripp, Michigan Lutheran's Michael Rosenbaum and Nick Lockman, River Valley's Jacob Barbour and Davyd Bronson, and Covert's Michael Darling.

PHOTO OF THE DAY

Don Campbell / HP staff See more photos:heraldpalladium.mycapture.com

Coloma's Megan Koenigshof drives around Hamilton's AJ Ediger during the first half of a Division 2 district final March 6 at Coloma High School.

While live sports is on hold, The HP is reprinting some of Photo Editor Don Campbell's favorite photos from the recent high school sports season.

Players to keep service time in MLB deal; draft may trim

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Players agreed to a deal with Major League Baseball that would preserve service time in the event this season is canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic, but left open details of what a reconfigured schedule would look like.

As part of the agreement approved by the union Thursday night, players will not challenge the loss of their salaries if no games are played.

Management will advance $170 million in salary payments over the first 60 days of the original schedule, and that money does not have to be returned if the season is canceled. Player salaries this year are expected to total roughly $4 billion.

Management was given the right to cut the amateur draft in both 2020 and 2021, and to freeze the values of signing bonus money at 2019 levels.

Details were divulged to The Associated Press by people familiar with the agreement who spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement was made.

Teams approved the 17-page agreement Friday, the person said.

Opening day was to have been Thursday, but was pushed back to mid-May at the earliest because of the virus outbreak. The spring training schedule was cut short on March 12 because on the pandemic, and it remains unclear when and if baseball can resume.

"Each of the parties shall work in good faith to as soon as is practicable commence, play, and complete the fullest 2020 championship season and post-season that is economically feasible," the agreement says. There must be no legal restrictions on mass gathering and travel, and a determination play "does not pose an unreasonable health and safety risk to players, staff or spectators."

They also agreed to consider playing past the usual end of the postseason in late October and early November, even if it involves using neutral sites and domes. They would consider a large increase in doubleheaders to get as many games in as they can, to play without fans and to revise the postseason format.

Seven-inning games for doubleheaders have not been given much discussion but also have not been ruled out. The sides committed to trying to finish initial discussions by April 10.

Players considered service time the key, and older players were willing to give up money to keep younger colleagues on track for big-money contracts next offseason.

If there are no games this year, anyone currently on a 40-man roster, 60-day injured list or an outright assignment to the minor leagues with a major league contract would receive 2020 service time equaling what the player accrued in 2019. If a partial season is played, service time would be the equivalent of what the player would have received over a full schedule. The formula multiplies days by 186 – the original length of the season – and dividing by the actual length of the season.

Mookie Betts, Trevor Bauer, Marcus Stroman, George Springer and JT Realmuto would be eligible for free agency, even if no games are played. The Los Angeles Dodgers acquired Betts from Boston just before spring training with the assumption they would have the 2018 AL MVP for one season.

But the trade-off was players would give up their salaries if there is no season, other than the $170 million being advanced.

Advances will be determined based on a player's current contract, designed to guarantee money to those at the bottom of the salary scale. Those with so-called split contracts whose salaries while in the minors are from $46,000 and $91,799 get $275 daily. Those at $91,800 to $149,999 receive $500 daily and those at $150,000 or more $1,000 daily. The remainder of the $170 million will be split among the rest of the players with major league contracts who want advances; each player has the right to opt out.

In the event of a shortened season, 2020 salaries would be prorated depending on how much of the season is played.

Management has the right to cut the amateur draft from 40 rounds to as few as five this year and 20 in 2021, and also has the right to delay the draft to as late as July 20 this year and next. It had been slated to start June 10 this year.

Inside Michigan football's coronavirus shutdown: 'It just sucks'

By ORION SANG
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

Kwity Paye woke up Tuesday morning and prepared to go to class.

He turned on his laptop, logged into BlueJeans Network – a video conferencing service – and tuned in for his two-hour Swahili lecture.

This is Paye's new reality, as he and his Michigan football teammates deal with the coronavirus outbreak.

One week ago, the Wolverines were supposed to begin spring practice.

Now, the team is scattered across the country – and no one knows when football will resume.

Like every other college football team, U-M had its spring practices canceled due to the coronavirus outbreak. All classes, meanwhile, were moved online – a significant adjustment for a university that had previously not offered online classes.

Most of the players who lived in the dorms have moved back home after reports emerged that a worker at the University's East Quad dining facility tested positive for coronavirus. Some players have stayed on campus and are taking online classes and trying to get through this as best as they can.

"I don't feel like we can be too productive in an environment like this," Paye told the Free Press. "Most of the gyms are closed. We've been having to do workouts on our own. That's beneficial but at the same time that's not the same feeling as going to a gym and actually getting a workout with a strength coach.

"I just feel like this environment has put a hold on everyone's living. It's not an ideal way of living. It's something we can try to get past as fast as we can, hopefully, when the weather starts to warm up the virus starts to go away a little faster. I've seen one thing where (President Donald) Trump said it could go up to August or something, and that would completely kill everything."

Paye, a senior from Providence, R.I., chose to stay on campus because he didn't want to risk infecting his mother, Agnes, or his younger brother.

His days have been segmented by the monotony of online classes and workouts. Paye, along with Luiji Vilain, Hunter Reynolds and former linebacker Jordan Anthony (who entered the transfer portal this offseason), have been working out together at the home of former Michigan running back Berkley Edwards. Edwards' father, Stan, who played at Michigan under Bo Schembechler and is now a track coach, has helped train Paye and his teammates.

On Monday, the group focused on squats and explosive lifts. Wednesday, they plan to run up and down a nearby hill and work on sprints.

Such is life in the time of the coronavirus outbreak. For their safety and well-being, the players have not been working out in conventional settings like their recently upgraded team weight room. The state's shelter-at-home order also prevents the players from accessing Schembechler Hall, where they might visit the training table or eat food prepared by the team nutritionist.

"It's difficult," Paye said. "I know that everyone's been saying it, but you're just bored all day. You just sit in the house and you're like, man. We'll get our workouts done but then after that, there's nothing really to do. Do homework and play video games. But other than that, you can't really go out and hang out because the virus is out there.

"The first two days, we were like, 'Oh yeah, it's funny that we're just chilling,' and then after that, we were like, man, I miss it."

According to Paye, roughly "90 percent" of the players who lived in dorms have left Ann Arbor due to the coronavirus case in East Quad. Most of them are underclassmen. There are a few remaining, such as offensive tackle Trente Jones and defensive end Julius Welschof, who is from Germany.

As for the players who live off campus, most have remained. Some whose families live near Ann Arbor drove home.

Academically, the players have settled into a rhythm. According to Paye, players still have contact with academic support and can set up appointments through Skype.

Paye credited Claiborne Green, director of football academic services, for staying in contact with every player and "making sure everyone has the support that they need."

The online classes themselves have been fairly straightforward. Paye liked the functionality of his Swahili lecture. In another class, lectures have been uploaded online to Canvas – the course homepage that students have used their entire academic careers. Professors, meanwhile, are available for video conferences.

"I think it's easier," Paye said. "Getting to experience what some other colleges do with online classes. I think it's pretty easy to function and a good alternative to not being able to do anything at all."

"I think (my teammates) love it, actually. Just because we can legit just wake up and open up the laptop and start doing online classes, and doing assignments when you feel like it."

But while the team's academic studies haven't been disrupted, the same cannot be said for the football side of things.

"It just sucks," Paye said, "that we can't really do much working out and spring football with the team."

On March 12, Paye and his teammates were preparing for a team workout when news broke that the university had canceled all practices, games and competitions.

The Wolverines had been hoping to get at least one spring practice in before an inevitable postponement or cancelation. At the same time, Jim Harbaugh and the coaching staff didn't know whether that would even be feasible, given their concerns about the virus.

"I know that he and the other coaches were worried about getting players all together," Paye said. "We were hearing stories about Rudy Gobert and how he felt fine and he had it."

According to Paye, the cancelation of football activities has "been hard" for Harbaugh. The head coach has told the team he is hoping Michigan will be given a couple of weeks to host non-padded practices before the beginning of fall camp to help make up for the lack of spring practices.

For now, though, Harbaugh is focused on being "really supportive."

"He's just been trying to find a bunch of ways to make sure that people here that are still in Ann Arbor still have the help and support that they need," Paye said. "If you need to talk to him, you can always call him. He's a guy where if you text him, he'll call your phone right away."

Strength and conditioning coach Ben Herbert has also taken on a large role in lifting the team's morale. Herbert has split the roster into five groups with 19 players each. Every day, those five teams compete to score points in different categories – an extension of Harbaugh's competition-based approach.

Competitions include finding creative ways of doing an overhead press, doing the most push-ups combined as a group, cooking the best meals (based on nutrition and vegetable volume) and getting the most sleep and hydration, based on data tracked by an app called Rise.

Paye and his teammates initially feared that the coronavirus outbreak's disruption to their workout schedule would cause them to lose hard-earned gains.

"For us, if we stayed out of working out for a week, you'd lose all of this," Paye said. "It's so quick to lose all that muscle, so we just try to stay on top of it to make sure that we're not losing anything."

Players who have gone home are working out there and doing football-specific drills with their old high school coaches. Those who are in Ann Arbor, meanwhile, have made the best of their situation. And Herbert's enthusiasm and competitions have certainly helped.

"Coach Herb is really doing a great job of making sure that we're all staying active and making sure that we're having some type of fun with the challenges and stuff like that," Paye said

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How to celebrate all of April's holidays while staying home

Alexandra Newman
Let's Celebrate

There's not a whole lot to celebrate right now with a global pandemic, but those looking to do something with their free time may find it comforting to celebrate some of the national days in April.

Everyone knows of April 1 as April Fools' Day, but did you know it's also National Sourdough Bread Day? It could be a good day to bake some bread or donate to a food pantry so someone else can have some to eat.

Last year, I told you about National Ferret Day on April 2, but the day is also National Burrito Day and National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day. Look, I just solved lunch and dinner.

April 3 is National Film Score Day. This year's Academy Award Winner for Best Original Score was "Joker," but there are many other movies known for their scores that you could have a showing of. Some classics include "Titanic," "Jaws," "The Lord of the Rings" and "Star Wars."

Last year, I asked for hugs on National Hug a Newsperson Day on April 4, but this year I will settle for a virtual one. The day is also National School Librarian Day. They probably also need a virtual hug right about now.

The first Saturday in April is National Handmade Day – so it's the perfect day to make a craft.

April 7 is the perfect day to drink beer, if you're of age, and do absolutely nothing else. The day is National Beer Day, as well as National No Housework Day.

Many local breweries are still offering takeout orders. See if you can support a local business while also celebrating these national days, do it.

National Zoo Lovers Day is April 8. Many zoos around the country are offering virtual tours and daily live videos introducing people to its animals right now.

April 11 is a day all for the pets you've been spending so much time with lately. It's National Pet Day. If you don't have a pet to spoil with pets and treats this day, may I suggest considering adopting from your local animal shelter?

Berrien County Animal Control is still facilitating adoptions right now via the internet and phone, so you don't have to put off getting a new furry friend if you have the resources to take care of one.

I don't think there is a home in America that doesn't have a copy of the game Scrabble. Nearly everyone has a copy of this tile-laying word game, or they have it on an app.

April 13 is National Scrabble Day, so grab the person you're quarantined with or video chat a loved one and play a game.

A good day to get outside, even if it's in your backyard, is April 14. The day, National Look up at the Sky Day, would be great for

See NEWMAN, page C3

William J. Kole / AP

A man walks past the First Baptist Church in America in Providence, R.I. Americans are turning to humor in many forms, like the sign in front of the church, as they cope with the fear and anxiety the coronavirus pandemic has unleashed.

If you don't laugh, you'll cry

Coping with coronavirus through humor

By WILLIAM J. KOLE
Associated Press

Nadia Davoli / AP

Comedian Erica Rhodes performs in Montreal. Rhodes says quarantined people need humor as much as toilet paper, and the memes and amusing anecdotes peppering our social media feeds are helping them heal and hope.

BOSTON — Neil Diamond posts a fireside rendition of "Sweet Caroline" with its familiar lyrics tweaked to say, "Hands ... washing hands."

A news anchor asks when social distancing will end because "my husband keeps trying to get into the house."

And a sign outside a neighborhood church reads: "Had not planned on giving up quite this much for Lent."

Are we allowed to chuckle yet?

We'd better, psychologists and humorists say. Laughter can be the best medicine, they argue, so long as it's within the bounds of good taste. And in a crisis, it can be a powerful coping mechanism.

"It's more than just medicine. It's survival," said Erica Rhodes, a Los Angeles comedian.

"Even during the Holocaust, people told jokes," Rhodes said. "Laughter is a symbol of hope, and it becomes one of our greatest needs of life, right up there with toilet paper. It's a physical need people have. You can't underestimate how it heals people and gives them hope."

For most people, the new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia, and death.

Those are scary words and scary prospects. But history has shown that its heaviest moments are often leavened by using humor and laughter as conscious choices – ways to cope when other things aren't working as expected.

"There's so much fear and horror out there. All the hand washing in the world isn't going to clear up your head," said Loretta LaRoche, a suburban Boston stress management consultant who's using humor to help people defuse the anxiety the pandemic has wrought.

"Some people will say this is not a time for laughter. The bottom line is, there is always a time for laughter," LaRoche said. "We have 60,000 thoughts a day and many of them are very disturbing. Laughter helps the brain relax."

That explains why social media feeds are peppered with coronavirus-themed memes, cartoons and amusing personal anecdotes.

For centuries, laughter in tough times has been cathartic, said Wayne Maxwell, a Canadian psychologist who has done extensive research on "gallows humor." The

See HUMOR, page C3

Thinking about growing a coronavirus hiatus beard?

Read this first

By ADAM TSCHORN
Los Angeles Times

The recently issued order shuttering all nonessential businesses in an effort to combat the spread of the novel coronavirus, has left many people out of work, many others working from home and many questions such as "Should I get this cough checked out?" "What businesses are open?" and "Should I grow a beard?"

The last of those might, at first blush, seem silly in the context of a global pandemic, but it's one that's probably crossed many a man's mind after realizing that the next month (at the very least) will be an opportunity to depart from the grooming rituals of normal daily life.

Who doesn't remember the "strike beard" phenomenon that grew out of the Writers Guild of America strike from November 2007 to February 2008?

And there are some serious things guys need to know before deciding to cancel their daily date with a slice of sharpened steel. Most important: How does having a beard affect the transmission of the coronavirus?

And, related to that: Is there one style of facial hair (a diminutive soul patch for example, or chevron-shaped mustache) that's preferable over another (such as mutton-chop sideburns or an Alaskan whaler beard) in 2020?

For a brief moment last month, it appeared that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had actually answered some of these questions for those in pursuit of the hirsute – and provided a hilariously detailed visual chart of "safe" facial-hair styles to boot.

Unfortunately, that infographic, which was issued in 2017, had nothing to do with the current COVID-19 pandemic and was intended as a guide for workers required to wear respirators at work.

Dr. John Swartzberg, clinical professor emeritus at University of California Berkeley's School of Public Health who studies infectious diseases, said he doesn't know of any scientific study that addresses facial hair and the transmission of the coronavirus.

"The only thing that comes to mind is the fitting of the N95 mask – or any mask for that matter," he said.

"When you have to breathe through a mask, you have to use more force when you inspire, and (that increased) inspiratory force sucks more air (in) around the cheeks," Swartzberg said. "So if you have a lot of facial hair, it's going to make it even worse."

In other words: If you hope to use a mask to prevent the transmission of the virus, facial hair that prevents a tight seal around the nose and mouth is a bad idea right out of the gate.

In the absence of a scientific study focusing specifically on facial hair, Swartzberg took health care workers' standard protocol of showering – and washing their hair – to avoid contamination as a logical starting point.

"With long hair, you can see where it's possible that droplets (of the virus) could get in someone's

See BEARD, page C3

In it together

Lynn Kellogg
Generations

Talk about change in a short amount of time – wow!

The community-wide, statewide, nationwide, worldwide attention to combating and controlling COVID-19 is the first time in my lifetime I've seen such mass cohesion toward a goal.

Watching the news with a mid-80s aged friend, the comment was made, "I haven't seen or felt anything like this since World War II."

It sent a shiver through me. Suddenly the family stories of those times resonated truer in my memory.

My parents were married in 1940, an era coming out of the Depression and entering peak war years. Sharing of resources for family and country was commonplace.

I heard stories of my uncle's young family moving in with my then-childless parents to make ends meet. And the time extended family pooled their allotted ration stamps for gasoline so my mother's younger sister and her new husband could have a small holiday after their wedding.

Taking advantage recently of senior hours at a local grocery store, I noticed a posted sign: "Bread is limited to two loaves per customer. Thank you."

In WWII, ration stamps were allotted in varying categories for different types of products: meat versus bread, household products and so forth. Victory gardens sprang up around the country.

Efforts to protect the country were part of daily life. Blackout drills at designated times to turn off all lights or pull shades were routine to prepare for possible attack. Organized scrap metal drives were common community projects through schools, Boy Scouts or other groups. Paper recycling drives continued for a long time.

People looked continually to their radios and the occasional news reel to stay current on what was going on. They appreciated each other's efforts. They didn't know how long it would last, or if change would be permanent, but they were in it together.

With COVID-19, the scramble to be responsive, think prudently, and shift our way of work and home life has been all encompassing, and very fast. There's a definite sense of being in it together, everywhere.

For the most part, people at stores or passing on the street give berth to allow required space. Family and friends throughout the country and across the globe reach out to express support and provide needed connection.

I'm so impressed with staff at Area Agency on Aging and elsewhere going out of their way to assist, support each other and accommodate change while continuing service.

Colleagues reach out with ideas to focus expertise or talent in new ways to help people cope with or fight the pandemic. Volunteers flood the lines wanting to know how to help.

Amid horrid uncertainty, the only acceptable way forward is to bond together toward common solutions. I've felt the "we can do it" attitude becoming contagious. It's a good thing.

On a cautionary note, be aware of scammers. A colleague reminded, it's "... important to keep in mind that scammers never let a good crisis go to waste."

Phishing refers to electronic scams, spoofing refers to phone calls that appear to be from a legitimate government source.

See KELLOGG, page C3

Caution, not fear

'Seat belts."

If you have kids old enough to buckle themselves in, you've probably said that more times than you can count. You know the consequences of not wearing seat belts can be horrific, so you tell them to buckle up every time you get in the car.

David M. Schell
Insights

But you're not afraid when you say it. You're being safe. And there is a difference.

God does not want us to live in fear, but we are called to make wise decisions.

Some people in ancient Israel had a group of contagious skin diseases called leprosy. And the Bible tells us God gave them detailed instructions about social distancing.

Those in danger of spreading the infection had to live alone, maintain a distinctive appearance, and shout "Unclean!" so everyone would know they were contagious.

Today, we are not being ordered to wear distinctive clothes or shout "Unclean!" We're only being asked to stay in our homes.

Unfortunately, without enough tests, it is difficult for many of us to know whether we are contagious, so if we lived under that law, we might all have to shout that we are "unclean."

Some of us have to work in public, though: Medical personnel, first responders, sanitation workers, grocery store and gas station employees, utility workers, and others without whose work is necessary to our lives. (If you are among them, thank you.)

2 Timothy 1:7 says God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-discipline. James 1:5 says God also gives wisdom.

So just as we fasten our seat belts every time we get in the car, without being afraid, I would invite us to abide by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's order to stay home unless it's absolutely necessary for us to go out, and if it is, to maintain social distancing, wash our hands, and contain our coughs. And I would invite us to do these things without fear.

Living in a fearful situation like this one without being afraid is not easy, so I have a few suggestions:

- Limit your intake of the news about the coronavirus.
- Log off social media for as long as you need to care for yourself.
- Take a walk (maintaining six feet of social distance, of course).
- Breathe. Inhale slowly through your nose, and exhale slowly through your mouth, at least three times.
- And perhaps, pray. Maybe the Lord's Prayer, or maybe something like this: "Dear God, I am anxious about what's going to happen to me and my family and my world." Hold out your hands and imagine your fear in your hands. Lift it up and ask God to hold onto it for you, at least for a little while. Ask God to hold those you care about but don't live with. Pray also for those whose work our common lives depend on. Then say, "Amen."

Today's Insights was written by the Rev. David Schell, pastor at Fairplain Presbyterian Church. Insights is written by area clergy to give different viewpoints on a variety of topics. It is published each Saturday in cooperation with the Berrien County Association of Churches. The views expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect the views of member churches.

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Charming farmhouse

There's no shortage of curb appeal for this beautiful four-bedroom farmhouse design. All of the main living areas conveniently open up to one another, while a versatile study on the first floor could become a home office, hobby space or private yoga room.

Upstairs, you'll find two bedrooms that share a Jack-and-Jill bath, a third bedroom (with a private bath) and the laundry room. The master suite also resides on this level and features a luxurious master bathroom with an extra-large closet.

To build this home, order a complete set of construction documents by calling 866-228-0193 or visit www.ePlans.com/collection/house-of-the-week. Enter the design number to locate the plan and view more images and details.

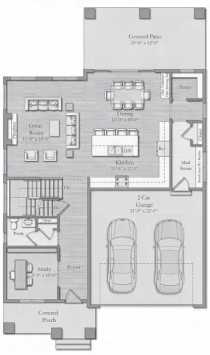
Visit the website to view previously featured plans, browse other specialty collections or search to find exactly what you want from more than 28,000 home designs. Most plans can be customized.

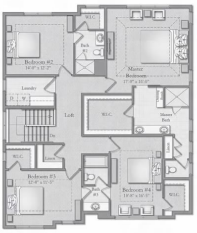
Save 10 percent on your house plans (some exclusions apply) with coupon code: NEWSPAPER.

– *www.ePlans.com*

Photo provided / www.ePlans.com

Board-and-batten siding mixed with stone delivers both modern and classic curb appeal to this farmhouse design. See more images online at www.ePlans.com/collection/house-of-the-week.





Design number: 1057-15
Square footage: 2,982 square feet
Bedrooms: 4
Dimensions: 39-feet-8-inches by 64-feet
Baths: 3 1/2
Framing: 2-by-6

BEARD

From page C2

hair," he said. "And I guess – and I'm really reaching here – if you touched your hair and you've got those droplets on your hair and then put your hand to your mouth or your nose or your eyes, you could inoculate yourself. So, if somebody coughed on you and then got (the virus) on your hair, and you then rubbed your hair or put it to your mouth or nose or eyes, theoretically you could transfer it that way.

"With a beard I guess it would be the same thing," he said. "If somebody coughed on you and there were some viral particles in your beard and you rubbed your beard and then touched your mouth or eyes, I guess you could inoculate yourself."

During the phone interview, Swartzberg paused before again emphasizing that there has been no explicit study of the issue. "I know of no science to support what I've just said," he said.

But, on the issue of having facial hair, especially if it increases the potential for touching one's face (perhaps while absentmindedly stroking your philosopher's beard in contemplation or villainously twirling the ends of your handlebar mustache), Swartzberg seemed less circumspect.

"That's not good," he said.

What then is the bottom line on beards in the era of the novel coronavirus?

Until there's a proper scientific study to better guide grooming decisions, take the well-educated guess of Swartzberg at face value. Opt to remain clean-shaven.

HUMOR

From page C2

term originated in medieval Britain, where hangings took place in parks near pubs and patrons told jokes at the victims' expense.

"Even in some of the writings of ancient Egypt, there are descriptions of military personnel returning from the front lines and using humor to cope," said Maxwell, of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

But, he warns, there exists a kind of comedy continuum: While humor can helpfully lighten things up, too much laughter and flippancy can signal a person is trying to escape from reality.

There are also questions of taste. No one wants to poke fun at medical misery or death. Quarantining and social distancing, though, are fair game, and self-deprecating humor is almost always safe – though LaRoche cautions that humor, like beauty, is always in the eye of the beholder.

"It all depends on how your brain functions," she said. "Give yourself permission to find humor. It's almost like a spiritual practice, finding ways to laugh at yourself."

For those millions of parents struggling to work from home and teach their housebound children, she's preaching to the choir. Witness this widely shared meme: a photo of an elderly, white-haired woman with the caption: "Here's Sue. 31 years old, home schooling her kids for the last 5 days. Great job Sue. Keep it up."

Michael Knight, a 29-year-old musician and a caseworker for people with mental disabilities, has been breaking the tension by posting memes like: "They said a mask and gloves were enough to go to the grocery store. They lied. Everyone else had clothes on."

"It helps me decompress," said Knight, of Plymouth, Mass. "It kind of offsets the paralyzing effects of the bogeyman that is the pandemic."

Rhodes, who's out more than $30,000 after three festivals and her first taped special were canceled, is trying to see the humor in her own predicament.

She recently posted iPhone video of herself pretending to work a nonexistent crowd on an outdoor stage she happened upon during a walk. "How's everyone not doing?" she cracks.

"The best material comes from a place that's very truthful and somewhat dark," Rhodes said.

Her prediction: When life eventually edges back to normal, "Saturday Night Live" and the latest Netflix standup specials will be powered by quarantine humor.

NEWMAN

From page C2

getting some fresh air. I've also heard light pollution is down, so it might be nice to look at the night sky, too.

On a serious note, April 16 is National Healthcare Decisions Day. The day was founded in 2008 by Nathan Kottkamp, a Virginia-based health care lawyer, to encourage people to express their wishes regarding health care, and for providers and facilities to respect those wishes, whatever they may be.

April 19 is National Hanging Out Day. The day is not for you to relax, but for you to hang your laundry out to dry. The day was founded in 1995, to encourage people to save energy by not using a dryer to dry their laundry.

National Take a Chance Day is April 23, but don't take the chance of gathering with others unless a lot has changed by then. Maybe instead, take a chance on cooking a new dish or teaching yourself a new skill.

April 25 is not only National Hug a Plumber Day, but it's also National Telephone Day. Practice some social distancing and call your favorite plumber.

National Superhero Day is the perfect day to thank the health care workers who have been working so hard during the pandemic. The day, April 28, can be used to not only binge some superhero movies, but make some cards for Spectrum Health Lakeland workers.

The last day of the month is National Honesty Day, and I can honestly say I really hope things are better by then.

At the end of these columns I always ask you to tweet me a picture of you celebrating one of these days @HPANewman.

This month, I especially encourage you to reach out. We need as much virtual human contact as we can get.

If you have a holiday you're passionate about in May that you'd like me write about, let me know at anewman@TheHP.com.

Alexandra Newman is a staff writer for The Herald-Palladium.

PET OF THE WEEK

Pockets is waiting to fill her dance card at Martin's Paw Mart in St. Joseph. She is quiet, sweet and will tolerate some competition for your affection (another cat is OK). Unsure about dogs, she's willing to compromise. Kids properly trained to pet gently and respect her space are OK. Her favorites include treats and binge-watching movies. She is spayed and current on shots. For more information, call Becky at Animal Aid at 926-4279.

CHURCH NOTES

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2673 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville, has canceled all upcoming face-to-face services and activities. The church will continue to hold online services on its Facebook and YouTube pages at 7 p.m. Wednesdays and 8 a.m. Sundays.

Zion St. Joe United Church of Christ, 3001 Veronica Drive, St. Joseph, invites the public to join it at 10 a.m. Sunday on its Facebook page. The Rev. Adam Bohland will continue the series entitled, "The Final Words From the Cross." This week's message will be "I Thirst" based on John 19:28-29.

Church Notes is a free listing, published Saturdays as a public service. Announcements are due by noon Wednesday. Late items will not be published. The editor reserves the right to edit for space and style. Incomplete information may not be published. First and last names should be furnished. Pictures submitted should include names of those shown. Send items to: Church Notes, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; or email to focus@TheHP.com. Items should include a daytime telephone number.

KELLOGG

From page C2

The Federal Trade Commission is reporting a drastic increase in bogus emails, texts and calls offering everything from medication shipments to products for COVID-19 tests to get you to share a Social Security number, personal information, credit card number or click on a link. When in doubt, just hang up or delete.

Please know the Info-Line for Aging & Disability at 800-654-2810 is available and fully staffed. Information on services, some altered for the times, is available. Call. Maybe we can help.

Take social distancing and stay-at-home rules seriously. Good luck.

Lynn Kellogg is CEO of Region IV Area Agency on Aging in Southwest Michigan. Questions on age or independence services? Call the Info-Line for Aging & Disability at 800-654-2810 or visit www.area agencyonaging.org. The Generations column appears each Saturday in The Herald-Palladium.

Worship Services

These area Congregations warmly invite you to attend

Zion St. Joe
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
3001 Veronica Dr.
St. Joseph
269-983-7151
Join us on Facebook at ZionChurchStJoe this Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 29 at 10:00 a.m. to hear Rev. Adam Bohland continue the series
"The Final Words From the Cross"
This week he will speak on
"I Thirst" based on John 19: 28-29
Call 269.983.7151 for more information.
www.zionstjoe.com

The Chapel
4250 Washington Ave., St. Joseph
(269) 429-1041
Series:
Judges & The Sermon on the Mount
Title:
"Following the Right Leader"
Judges 9
We will livestream at 9:00am and 10:35am.
www.YourPlacetoBelong.com

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
Trinity
LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD
Located at the corner of Court & Market Streets
Downtown St. Joseph - (269) 983-5000
www.trinitystjoe.org
ALL PUBLIC WORSHIP IS TEMPORARY SUSPENDED
Please join us on our Facebook page
At 10:00am for our Sunday Service
Sunday Worship Services
8:00 am & 10:30 am (Traditional)
9:15 am (Contemporary in Gym)
We Are A Stephen Ministry Church

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

AAAH, MY FIRST HAMMOCK SNOOZE OF THE YEAR
ALL RIGHT, DAISY, JUMP ON UP HERE!
LOOKS LIKE ONE OF US GAINED WEIGHT OVER THE WINTER!
3-28

HI & LOIS

BC

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

I MUST LEAVE YOU MENTAL MIDGETS BEHIND AS I GO START UP MY OWN COMPANY.
I WAS ONCE DUMB LIKE ALL OF YOU. THEN I STARTED BINGE-WATCHING TED TALKS, AND I EVOLVED.
WHAT ARE YOU NOW?
SOME KIND OF GOD, I ASSUME.

GARFIELD

IN RESPONSE TO THE MANY REQUESTS, I PRESENT THIS CLASSIC GARFIELD MOMENT
YUM!
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FAIR COMIC STRIP PRACTICE ACT, I MUST DIVULGE THAT SOME OF THOSE REQUESTS MIGHT HAVE COME FROM ME
JIM DAVIS 3-28

FORT KNOX

PICKLES

EARL, YOU CANNOT USE A VACUUM TO GET THAT COTTON SWAB OUT OF YOUR EAR.
EH?
I'LL GET IT OUT WITH SOME TWEEZERS.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH USING THE VACUUM?
IT'S TOO RISKY. YOU COULD SUCK YOUR BRAIN OUT.

FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE

BABY BLUES

CURTIS

"THE ATTACK OF THE GOLDFISH PEOPLE" WILL GO DOWN AS A CULT CLASSIC!
WHAT'S UP C-BREEZE?
MY DAD MADE ME DO CHORES TO EARN THE MONEY TO GO TO THE MOVIES
BUMMER-EVERYTHING'S MORE FUN FOR A KID IF THEY CAN LEECH OFF THEIR PARENT!
BUT I SAW YOU CHOKE UP WHEN THE GOLDFISH PEOPLE DRIED UP
YEAH, THAT WAS AWE-SOME!
3-29

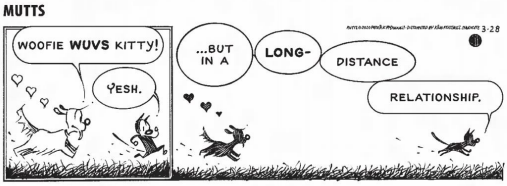
ZITS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

HOW ABOUT A HUG, SON?
MAYBE LATER.
I DON'T THINK HAMLET IS VERY TOUCHY-FEELY.
MAYBE HE JUST DOESN'T WANT TO TOUCH OR FEEL PORK GREASE.
3-28

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

MUTTS



SALLY FORTH

WHAT'S WRONG, SWEETIE?
IT'S JUST... EVERYTHING'S CHANGING, MOM. EVERYONE'S GOT THEIR OWN THINGS GOING ON AND I FEEL... ALONE? ADRIFT? I DON'T KNOW...
WELL, YOUR DAD AND I HAVE BEEN THINKING YOU SHOULD JOIN SOME AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.
YOU HAVE? AND WHEN EXACTLY WERE YOU GOING TO BRING ME INTO THE LOOP ON THAT?
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IT NOW.
ONLY BECAUSE I BROUGHT IT UP! DO I REALLY NEED TO HOLD YOUR HAND THROUGH THIS WHOLE PARENTING PROCESS, MOM?
KEEFE
3-28

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Ben Sanders @HPBenSanders
Maxwell Harden @HPMaxwellHarden
Ben Spencer @HPBenSpencer

hp OUTDOORS

Submitting hunting or fishing photos

Have a behemoth buck, a tremendous turkey or super-sized salmon? Please submit photos to sports@TheHP.com.

Your photo must be in focus, all persons in the photo must be identified, and the general location of the hunt must be provided (for example, 10-point buck shot in Benton Township, black bear shot near Munising, Mich., etc.)

Social distancing leads to big bass

Dave Mull

On Tuesday, the state government issued an executive order urging people to stay at home. Maintain social distancing and stay six feet apart, the release said.

A conservation officer told a friend of mine on Thursday that they are watching and will close down the boat ramps if people ignore that social distancing order.

So, don't. You might cause all of us to miss out on spring fishing, and springtime is big bass time.

On Wednesday, friends Zach Heiden of Lansing and Matt Pyatt of Greenville met up with me at a small chain of lakes near Albion for a day of kayak bass fishing. The action was overall slow, but the fish we caught were big, and just hanging out and talking about fishing while sipping a few beers afterward, well, it just made the world seem a little saner.

The lakes are rather non-descript and aren't easy to find on maps or mapping software. Gordon Lake, the southernmost lake, has DNR access. This small, round body of water looks as bassy as any lake around, but in three excursions, I've only caught a couple of shorties there. The best bass fishing starts on Clark Lake, which you can reach using the channel from Gordon Lake. Make a hard left and you go through a channel that comes out right between Bolt Lake to the south and Silvers Lake to the north.

Silvers, in particular, has produced some big bass. It's shallow – 4 to 6 feet deep – and has lots of weed beds. On my first trip there five years ago, during this time of year, my two companions each caught a few big bass in Silvers.

So Wednesday, Matt, Zach and I focused most of our efforts on Silvers. Matt caught the first fish: a 14-inch largemouth on a squarebill crankbait. An hour later, he caught the second fish, this one a bragging-size largemouth that measured 20 inches. That one bit a diminutive Ned rig, a 2 ¾-inch worm on a ½0-ounce jighead. The worm's color was "peanut butter and jelly" and the jighead was chartreuse.

Meanwhile, I had a couple of nibbles, probably from the abundant perch we saw coming up shallow to spawn.

"Hey, I just saw a whole bunch of bluegills," Matt said, about an hour after he'd released the big bass.

"Cool, I'm switching to a chatterbait," I replied. I tied on a Z-Man Jack Hammer and added a soft plastic trailer called a D-Bomb and made by Missile Baits. The whole set-up had a sort of bluegill profile. Not many casts later, I had retrieved the chatterbait almost to the kayak's side when something grabbed it. I soon netted a bass that was almost identical to Matt's big one, but just a quarter-inch longer, and Zach added a 28-inch pike. Kayak anglers habitually measure our catches as our tournaments are won by the angler with the most inches as opposed to weight.

Although we didn't catch a lot of fish, we had a great day in which we barely even thought about viruses and ventilator shortages.

We're planning to make Wednesday get-togethers at different lakes a regular thing for at least the next few weeks. Social distancing can actually be fun when it involves fishing.

Outdoors columnist Dave Mull lives in Paw Paw. Write to him at dave.sportfish.mull@gmail.com.

Photo provided

Matt Pyatt of Greenville caught this 20-inch largemouth bass this week on Silvers Lake near Springport.

Appeals grow to close U.S. national parks during pandemic

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER, FELICIA FONSECA and TRAVIS LOLLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is sticking with its crowd-friendly waiver of entrance fees at national parks during the coronavirus pandemic, as managers at some parks try and fail to keep visitors a safe distance apart and communities appeal for a shutdown at other parks that are still open.

While the Interior Department agreed this week to requests from local managers of Yellowstone and some other iconic national parks to close, others remained open and newly free of charge. In Arizona, local governments and the Navajo Nation were waiting for an answer Thursday on their request earlier this week for federal officials to shut down Grand Canyon National Park as cases of the coronavirus grow in surrounding areas.

"We think it's just in the best interest of the community, the visitors and the staff," said Lena Fowler, a supervisor in Coconino County, which includes the Grand Canyon. "What we're really concerned about is making sure everyone is safe."

Park officials announced Thursday evening that three of the canyon's most popular trails – Bright Angel, South Kaibab and North Kaibab – were being temporarily closed as of noon Friday, with some other operations being modified.

Photo provided / Arthur Herman

A female eastern bluebird is pictured sitting on a nest box, on March 20 in Hagar Township.

Bluebirds arrive in Southwest Michigan

Jonathan Wuepper
Southwest Michigan Wildlife

Eastern bluebirds typically begin nesting in Southwest Michigan during March, and one female bluebird was photographed by Arthur Herman checking out a nesting box on March 18 in Hagar Township.

Eastern bluebirds typically produce two broods per year, and young from first brood occasionally help with the nesting of the second.

Nesting boxes have helped this species recover from population lows in the 1950s through the 1970s. Eastern bluebirds compete for nesting boxes with native house wrens and tree swallows, and the introduced house sparrow.

It is recommended that bluebird boxes should be placed on metal posts and not nailed to trees to prevent raccoon and black rat snake raids on nests.

Bluebirds nest most successfully in areas of low vegetation, scattered trees, being away from buildings that attract the house sparrow.

The first eastern towhee of the year, a male, was photographed by Dick Schinkel of Oronoko Township on March 21 at his home bird feeder.

Eastern towhees are a ground foraging songbird, observed most often among brushy areas that border forests, present in our region from late March through October.

The species is uncommon during the winter months.

James Bluschke of St. Joseph Township photographed a male pileated woodpecker on March 20 as it clung to his backyard suet feeder.

Bluschke says he had seen a pair of these woodpeckers a few days before the bird was seen feeding on the suet, and suspects a pair is nesting nearby along Hickory Creek. Long-tailed ducks have been seen off the St. Joseph piers in recent days including a pair photographed by J.B. Hoyt off Silver Beach on March 21.

Long-tailed ducks are not often viewed at close range, as they spend most of their time in winter out at sea, or out in the Great Lakes away from land. They will be departing our region in a few weeks, to more northern latitudes where they nest. The species is found in summer around the shores of the Arctic Ocean and North Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

Jonathan Wuepper is an area naturalist. Report your sightings to him at wuepperj@gmail.com.

Photo provided / Dick Schinkel

A male eastern towhee, photographed on March 21 in Oronoko Township.

Photo provided / James Bluschke

A male pileated woodpecker is shown eating at a suet feeder, on March 20 in St. Joseph Township.

Sarett Nature Center

Storybook Hike: The nature center building is closed and all events are canceled through April 5. Trails remain open and include a Storybook Hike along the way.

Fernwood Botanical Garden

Closed: Fernwood has closed and canceled all events until further notice.

Berrien County Sportsman's Club

Hunter safety classes: Currently canceled due to DNR order. Online classes are still available. Call Dan at 277-4789 for more information.

Trap and skeet shooting: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundays, 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays.

Coloma Rod & Gun Club

Carrying concealed weapon classes: 8 a.m.-5 p.m second Saturday of each month. Cost is $105. Call Andrew Zachary at 351-2051 or 944-7802.

Trap shooting: Thursdays 6-10 p.m. and Sundays from 8 a.m.-noon.

Archery: Ranges open for members at any time; public hours are 8 a.m.-noon Sundays and Thursdays 6-10.

Breakfast: Breakfast is available from 8 a.m. to noon every Sunday. For more information, go online to www.colomarodandgunclub.com.

Watervliet Rod & Gun Club

Carrying concealed weapon classes: 6-10 p.m. April 9; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. April 11. Register from 6-7 p.m. April 7.

Saturday class features an attorney or police officer to speak and answer questions, an NRA course, personal protection in the home, and three hours of range time with one-on-one supervision. Cost is $100. Call 468-3837 to register.

Submit information for Get Outdoors to sports@TheHP.com, fax to 429-4392 or call 429-1294 by Wednesday.

FISHING REPORT

Weekly fishing report temporarily suspended

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources temporarily suspended the weekly fishing report.

The DNR usually puts out a weekly fishing report to let the public know what's biting and where, but the current, global COVID-19 situation means DNR must share more critical information. Head out to fish only if you're feeling well. Practice social distancing, at least 6 feet away from another person.

Frequently wash your hands with soap and warm water, or use hand sanitizer. If driving to or from your nearby fishing spot, roll the windows down a bit for airflow.

There's nothing like time on the water for stress relief, and everyone could use that right now. Just do your part to keep yourself and others safe.

– Michigan DNR, March 26

Chasing down an intermittent nonstarter

DEAR CAR TALK: I have a well-maintained, 2008 Ford Fusion with 256,000 miles.

Sometimes, the car does not start on first, second, third or more turn of the ignition key. I'll pump the brake and keep at it, and finally it starts. There's no signs of life during these failed attempts (no sound at all).

I had the battery replaced a couple of months ago, but it's still happening. Is it the starter? Loose connections?

I'm getting ready for a long road trip and don't want to be stranded. I'd like to give the dealership some hints about what to look for in case the car starts fine when I take it in. What should they check? – Christie

Ray Magliozzi
Car Talk

DEAR CHRISTIE: Well, with 256,000 miles on the car, it could be a lot things. It's like when a 96-year-old comes into the doctor's office, and the doctor asks "Is anything OK?"

I'm going to guess it's not the battery, since that was just replaced. And I'm also going to guess that when they changed out the battery a few months ago, they cleaned and tightened all the cables. So it's probably not that, either.

It could be the starter motor. This is classic behavior of a failing starter. It could also be the ignition switch. The ignition switch is what you stick your key into. And after a few million uses, it can wear out, and fail intermittently.

In addition, there are a couple of safety features that prevent you from starting the car and immediately plowing through your garage door. One is called the neutral safety switch. That's a switch that prevents the car from starting if the shifter is in anything other than Park or Neutral.

As an experiment, next time the car won't start, with the transmission in Park, try forcefully jiggling the shifter with one hand while holding the key in the crank position with the other. If nothing else, it's good aerobic exercise.

If you can get the car to start that way in Park or Neutral, that points to a bad Neutral Safety Switch.

Your Fusion also has a brake-starter interlock, which prevents the car from starting unless your foot is on the brake. If that switch is out of position, or worn out, that could also cause intermittent starting issues.

So this is good news for your mechanic, Christie. He'll have plenty to choose from, in terms of where to get the money for next month's boat payment.

And you're right to get it addressed before your upcoming road trip. These "intermittent" problems tend to become more "mittent" over time, and then permanent. So it certainly could strand you.

If you're not able to confirm it's the neutral safety switch by using the experiment I describe, ask your mechanic to take his best guess and try replacing something.

You'll have to hope that he guesses right, or that if he guesses wrong, it fails again before your bon voyage party.

If it were me, I'd probably start with the brake interlock switch first, since that's the cheapest thing to try. If that doesn't fix it, I'd try a new starter motor. I'd try the ignition switch last.

And each time you're in there for one of these repairs, don't stop yourself from perusing the new car showroom. Good luck, Christie.

DEAR CAR TALK: My question has to do with the air pressure in my tires.

In the winter, the low tire pressure warning light in my wife's car tends to come on when it gets very cold. As I'm sure you're well aware, this is due to the impact of the cold on the density of the air in the tire.

I live in Colorado, and it can be 14 degrees in the morning, and in the 60s by the afternoon. When I check the pressure early, it's naturally low. When I check it in the afternoon, it's back up to normal.

My question is this: What pressure should I set the tires at so that I can assure my wife that she is safe to drive, and will also prevent her sensor from sending her into a panic, and me having to check her air pressure to convince her that she does not have a flat tire?

Thanks. My frozen fingers thank you as well. – Dave

DEAR DAVE: Good question.

Keep in mind that, generally speaking, tire pressure that's too low is more dangerous than tire pressure that's too high. So the answer is to fill the tires so that that they're at the correct pressure at the colder part of the day.

We know that tire pressure drops about one pound-per-square-inch (PSI) for every 10 degrees the temperature drops. So, if your recommended tire pressure is 30 PSI, and you set them at 30 PSI in the afternoon when it's 65 degrees, by the next morning, when it's 50 degrees colder, your tire pressure will be 25 PSI.

That's more than 10 percent below the recommended pressure, so it'll set off your tire pressure warning light, panicking your wife, and setting you on a path to frostbite.

So, instead, set the tires at 30 PSI in the morning. By the afternoon, the tire pressure will be 35 PSI, and that will be of absolutely no consequence in terms of safety.

If your wife is very sensitive, she may notice that the ride is slightly firmer. And if she's an engineer, she may notice that she gets better gas mileage in the afternoon with her firmer tires than she does in the morning. Realistically, she probably won't notice either (and neither would any of us).

As long as you stay below the tire's maximum safe pressure (which is printed on the sidewall of every tire, and is considerably higher than the recommended pressure), your wife will be perfectly safe. At 35 PSI on a passenger car tire, you shouldn't be anywhere near the tire's maximum allowable pressure.

So in circumstances like yours, where the temperature varies wildly, set the correct pressure during the colder part of the cycle, Dave. Then you can both live like normal adults and stop thinking about your tires.

Got a question about cars? Write to Ray Magliozzi in care of King Features, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803, or email him by visiting the Car Talk website: www.cartalk.com.

Dar Davis / HP correspondent

The out-of-the-ordinary 1960 Corvair from Chevrolet was best known for its engine placement in the rear and for being safety crusader Ralph Nader's punching bag. Yes, it did have quirky handling characteristics if you drove it like a dummy. But to Dar the first gen Corvair is an automotive design home run. GM made a compact car look attractive and desirable and the Corvair influenced the styling of numerous Euro small cars.

Part 1: The perfectly styled automobile

Dar Davis

Recently there have been a spate of high-end auctions here in the U.S., but especially in Europe, that offered for sale a number of truly amazing looking automobiles. Some of the offerings were vehicles I had never seen before, and nearly all were limited edition luxury cars from automakers like Ferrari, Bentley, Aston Martin and the like. Many of the automobiles (calling them a car seems so plebeian), usually a low slung roadster or two-door hardtop, are breathtakingly beautiful. Most were built in very small numbers (explaining why they are seldom seen) and many were seemingly built by one of the Italian car body shops (carrozzeria) like Ghia, Bertone, Pininfarina or Italdesign. We have (or had) a number of coach-building firms here in the U.S. back in the early part of the 20th century and they include familiar names like Fleetwood, Derham, Dietrich and LeBaron. They too created some majestic looking automobile bodies built on the chassis of luxury brands like Packard, Cadillac, Chrysler and Lincoln.

I mention that these low-volume automobiles are breathtakingly beautiful. What is it about these vehicles that I find so attractive? Perhaps because the designers, mostly Italian but not all of them, seem to have an affinity to follow the golden rule of good design: Less is more. These rare, seldom seen beauties were created with perfect proportions (usually long hood, short deck), common design cliches like vents and body crease lines are avoided and all have smooth aerodynamic surfaces like Mother Nature herself held the pencil during the design phase.

One needs to only go online and type in "classic Ferraris or vintage Jaguar XKs" and your reward will be dozens of photos of some gorgeous works of art that just happen to have four tires at each corner. One of my favorite Jags is the 1957 XKSS. Twice over the Lake Bluff Concours 13-year history, Dick Harm of Clarkston, Mich. brought his green XKSS. It was built in limited numbers to do just one thing. Go fast. If you Google this car, you will note that its purity of form is not compromised by big bumpers. There are little slivers of bumpers at each front corner, but the racer's ovid grille is totally exposed – and it is a sight to behold. I like the lines of the XKSS because it looks like it has gone to the YMCA since childhood and it bulges, in a good way, with a taunt, smooth surface. It just looks great and it will go fast. Other examples of beautiful automobiles are the 1967 Ferrari 275 GTB, just about any Aston Martin DB series coupes or roadsters (Bond, James Bond). I especially like the 1976 Aston Martin 4.2-Litre Sports Saloon. Readers can find other examples of beautiful European sources by simply visiting any of the web sites of high-end auction houses like RM Sotheby's, Bonhams, Gooding and Company, to mention a few, and each will have a number of low production, elegantly styled automobiles available for sale.

Trivia question

Name the GM Design vice president who oversaw the design of the 1960 Corvair and 1963 Pontiac Prix.

Automobiles that qualify to be considered a true classic as defined by the Classic Car Club of America (CCCA) include a number of fine cars built and sold here in the United States. The criteria for selection to this august group of vehicles has evolved over the decades since the club formed in 1952. Initially, American and foreign-built pre-war autos built between 1915 and 1942 were eligible. Over the years the club has made amendments and now select vehicles from1915 to 1948 are eligible if they fit the criteria of "high-priced" and "built in limited quantities."

So members of the CCCA organization created the criteria to determine vehicles eligible for inclusion in their organization. Today in this column (and in next week's, as well) I want to list a few post-World War American cars that I feel would be strong candidates to be recognized if a car club similar to the CCCA is formed some years from now and it lists the so-called design/styling "classics" of the last half of the 20th century (1949-2000). If I am invited to serve on the organizing committee to determine what the initial vehicle invitees would be, the following cars would certainly appear on my list. It should be noted here that a car on my list is of such superb style/design that I would change little, if anything, on the cars.

On nearly everyone's list of the most beautiful cars is the 1961 Jaguar XK-E. Designer Malcom Sayer truly penned a masterpiece. The new model was a sensation when it was introduced in March 1961. Few changes were made to the model over its 14-year production run. No surprise, none were needed. Either the roadster or the drophead coupe are eye candy.

I had dinner the other night with Rob Zeller and John Manifold of Saugatuck. These two car collectors have four vintage cars in their garage. My favorite by far is the incomparable 1961 Lincoln Continental in black with a white interior. Lincoln built both a sedan and a convertible Continental for that model year, and Rob and John have the stunning 4-door convertible. The L-C was designed under the auspices of Elwood Engel. He would soon depart Ford Motor Co. and be hired by Chrysler. The Pentastar company's 1964 Imperial and 1965 Chrysler certainly revealed his input in their design. The 1961-65 L-C has always been one of my favorite American luxury cars. There is a die-cast version of it in my personal collection. Much to my chagrin, Rob and John informed me that they have decided to sell their Conti. I am in mourning. Not surprisingly, Hagerty Insurance Company in Traverse City had recently borrowed their Conti to display in their corporate showroom.

Like the Lincoln Conti, another car that I would not change a thing on is the cleanly designed and beautifully executed 1963 Pontiac Grand Prix. What is there not to like? At the front Pontiac continued the marque's signature split grill, only this time they placed the headlights vertically. Those vertical lights forced the designers to craft a smooth slab-sided, coke-bottle look for the GP. The rear window was dramatically concave and it blended beautifully into the car's body. Perhaps almost to a fault, very little chrome was placed on the 2-door hardtop body. Only just enough to highlight the wheel wells and the car's windows. Needless to say, Pontiac's answer to Ford Motor's 4-place Thunderbird luxury personal car was a success. Sales jumped and the 2-door, four-passenger luxury coupe segment had a new successful player.

Not all pure automotive design is found on a luxury or sports car. Sometimes it can be a popular family sedan. I think Ford did a great job with its initial Falcon in 1960. Granted, it could have started life as a bar of soap, but the designers found a way to make it look very put together and it is faultless in its execution. However, my favorite small car of the period is the 4-door 1960 Corvair. The Corvair that I owned was the second generation 1965-69 version. It was touted in many magazines as one of the best-designed compacts ever. Automobile magazine editor David E. Davis even went so far as to say it was the best looking of all the 1965 cars. I loved my 1966 4-door hardtop Vair, but I feel strongly that the first gen Corvair is the overall winner of "best looking compact" ever. It had ideal proportions with an airy greenhouse featuring thin roof pillars and a wrap-around rear window under a cantilevered flat roof. The high-placed character line feature that circled the entire body would be copied by other automakers on many Euro compact cars in the years that followed. GM designer Carl Renner did a superb job making the small car look important.

Next week: Part II: Perfect car pick's from Dar

■ Trivia answer: Bill Mitchell followed GM's first Design VP Harley Earl in 1958 and served as design chief until 1977.

Dar Davis founded the Lake Bluff Concours and chaired the event for many years. He has been writing this column since 1999. He can be reached at drd43@sbcglobal.net.

BEHIND THE WHEEL

3 high-tech vehicles for less than $36,000

By REX TOKESHI-TORRES
Edmunds (AP)

Every year brings new technology features in vehicles. Most of them undeniably enhance a vehicle's modern appeal and safety, such as widescreen infotainment displays and safety systems that can automatically help prevent or mitigate accidents.

But these high-tech features also come with a higher price tag. The average national transaction price of a new vehicle in February was a little more than $37,000, an increase of about $5,700 in the past five years, according to Edmunds data.

Some of that price creep is due to the popularity of SUVs, which typically cost more than sedans. But the fact remains that if you want a high-tech car today, it can quickly get expensive.

With that in mind, the experts at Edmunds have picked their favorite high-tech vehicles for under $36,000. These models get you the most for your money and still come in under the average transaction price.

To get on the list, a vehicle needed to have the following features: traffic-adaptive cruise control, a 7-inch infotainment screen or bigger, Android Auto and Apple CarPlay smartphone compatibility, and a collection of advanced driver safety aids. The latter included an automatic braking system to help avoid a front collision, a blind-spot warning system to monitor the vehicle's sides, rear cross-traffic alert to help when backing out of parking spots and driveways, and a system to warn about unintended lane departures.

The listed manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) includes destination fees. Since options on a car can vary, we've also recommended the trim level and equipment package that get you all the tech we're discussing.

2020 Nissan Versa SR with Convenience package

MSRP: $19,465

The redesigned Versa sedan is small but packed with the latest tech. It comes standard with Nissan's Safety Shield 360 suite of safety aids.

LED headlights with automatic high beams also come standard, as well as a 7-inch infotainment display along with Android Auto and Apple CarPlay integration. The Convenience package we recommend adds a traffic-adaptive cruise control system.

Other advantages to the Versa include a roomy trunk and high fuel economy. Sluggish acceleration is the car's main drawback.

2020 Kia Forte GT with GT2 package

MSRP: $25,655

The Kia Forte small sedan comes with a majority of features on our list, along with an 8-inch display, lane keeping assist and automatic high beams.

The Forte GT trim's optional GT2 package adds missing elements such as the blind-spot monitor, adaptive cruise control, rear cross-traffic alert and a pedestrian detection upgrade to the standard forward collision mitigation system.

We like how the Forte provides so many features for the money. Fuel economy is also high. On the downside, the Forte has a slightly uncomfortable ride.

2020 Mazda CX-30 with Premium package

MSRP: $29,300

The all-new CX-30 is a stylish addition to Mazda's small SUV lineup. Get a CX-30 with its optional Premium package, and it'll come loaded with everything in our criteria and more.

You also get a system that can help steer to keep you in your lane, headlights that automatically adjust when you turn the wheel, a head-up display that shows you important information on the windshield, and an 8.8-inch infotainment screen.

In addition to its technology, the CX-30 also has upscale interior and poised handling. The rear seats are a little snug, however, so try them out if you have taller passengers.

STAY STRONG. STAY CALM. BE HOPEFUL.

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1826 South Donna Drive - $155,000
Stevensville; 3 BR, 1 BA 1,212 SF
Ranch Home in Lakeshore Schools District
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6211 Whitetail Court - $425,000
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NEW LISTING

22370 Maple Street - $190,000
Cassopolis; 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 1,910 SF
Diamond Lake Boat Slip; Heated Ingr. Pool
CressyEverett.com/20011522
Dave Springsteen 269-462-2500

67420 Territorial Road- $749,900
Lawrence; 3 BR, 2.5 BA 3,362 SF
On All-Sport Christie Lake; Historic home
CressyEverett.com/20008239
Dave Springsteen 269-462-2500

NEW LISTING

1140 Charles Trail - $237,000
St. Joseph; 4 BR, 2.5 BA 1,561 SF
Traditional Style Home; St. Joseph Township
CressyEverett.com/20011532
Mike Barber 269-449-6939

5340 Notre Dame Ave. #72 - $135,000
Stevensville; 2 BR, 1 BA 950 SF
Lake Michigan Access; Invest./Vac. Property
CressyEverett.com/20008992
Alison Plaisier 773-680-2509

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Tamra Curtis	352-209-3681	Maggie Olson	269-612-1350	Linnea Strunk	269-605-9063
Allison Faris	269-932-2615	Phyllis M. Palmer	269-985-3180	Levi Sturm	269-277-8446
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LEGALS

CITY OF BENTON HARBOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – LAWN BIDS 2020

The City of Benton Harbor will accept sealed proposals for furnishing Lawn Mowing services for city owned properties for the 2020 & 2021 seasons.

Sealed proposals must be received at the City Clerk's Office on or before April 2, 2020 at 4:00 PM. Proposals are to be submitted on forms provided by the City of Benton Harbor. Proposals are to be complete, and properly executed by an officer having the full authority to enter into contracts of the proposed magnitude. All proposals submitted shall remain firm throughout contract. The Bidder shall provide a proposed price in accordance with the Bid Proposal Form enclosed herewith.

Proposals shall be submitted in sealed envelope(s) addressed as follows:

City of Benton Harbor
City Hall
City Clerk's Office
200 East Wall Street
Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022

Envelope(s) shall be clearly marked with the following inscription: "Lawn Mowing Services Proposal 2020 and 2021"
The Bidder shall include in his/her proposal, a brief history of his/her company and three references of accounts presently (or recently) receiving services similar to the proposed services. The Bidder shall provide detailed information regarding those efforts contemplated for subcontracting (if any). Efforts to be addressed include mowing, raking, sweeping, clearing, hauling, trimming, edging, pruning, transferring, sorting, and disposal, if applicable.

Proposals must be hand-delivered or mailed by the deadline. Any proposals received after the time and date specified, shall be declared unresponsive, and will be returned to the sender without review or further comment from the City. Bidder is hereby advised that depositing proposals with postal, package, or common carriers does not constitute delivery of the same to City. The City of Benton Harbor assumes no responsibility for late arrival.

The Request for Proposal, in its entirety, is available on the City of Benton Harbor's website: bhcity.us.

The City of Benton Harbor reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; to waive any irregularities therein; to increase or decrease the quantities listed; to award the contract to other than the low bidder, or to accept any responsible proposal.

Kimberly Thompson,
City Clerk
03/16/2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL NOTICE

It's Time to retire!
Catch-Um Lake Bait Shop, fishing ponds and campground will not re-open on April 1st, and will remain closed. Thank you to all my customers for your business and loyalty for the past 35 years.

CARD OF THANKS

Cody Keller and family would like extend their gratitude and appreciation to the many businesses that helped with donations as well as the many individuals that donated items, and/or helped with the event. Then benefit dinner for Cody Keller was a great success and shows how a community call pull together.

EMPLOYMENT

SALES

Cassopolis, MI
Regional Sales Manager
CHT USA, Inc.
Seeking self-motivated, highly skilled sales professional with experience in the personal care industry. Capable of managing retention and acquiring new client relationships. Must have proven history of closing successes and effective communication skills. Territory coverage: Upper Midwest to Texas. Chemical background required with experience in the Silicone industry. Full-time. Home-Base office location negotiable. 50% travel required. Submit resume to: hr.usa@cht.com

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PEOPLE DO READ SMALL ADS!

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Work with what you have to offer. Hone your skills to fit the job you want to pursue. Diversity, discipline and living up to your promises should be your priorities. Don't waste time being disgruntled or argumentative. Focus on what you can do, not on what you cannot.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Standing your ground may be necessary, but do so with kindness. If you handle people with dignity and understanding, you'll be able to persuade others to see things your way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Get the facts. Make choices based on truth, practicality and common sense. Someone you encounter will offer you a different perspective. Take everything you hear into account.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Back away from anyone asking too many questions. Keep personal information in a safe place. Take pride in the way you look. The way you present yourself to the world matters.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You've got more going for you than you realize. An effort to improve your health is favored. If you voice your opinions, you'll attract someone likeminded. A partnership or financial opportunity looks promising.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't limit what you can do or let someone lead the way. Do what's best for you and avoid getting left behind. Refuse to get caught in someone else's emotional mess.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you spend more time on hobbies and interests you enjoy, it will help you make choices that will improve your life and help you achieve happiness. Financial gain looks promising.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Consider your long-term plans and revise them to fit your current lifestyle and financial budget. Reviewing the past will help you come to terms with something you've lost.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Keep moving forward. Timing is everything, and if you act fast, you will be able to take advantage of something that will help you excel. A money matter will improve.

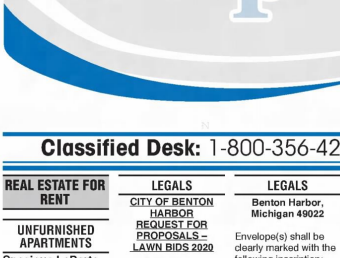
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Choose wisely. Be realistic when looking at your options. Don't be fooled by something or someone that sounds too good to be true. You are best off doing your own thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Catch up with old friends, attend a reunion or host an event. Your hands-on approach will put you where the action is and help you take advantage of an exciting opportunity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Put a plan in place that is budget-friendly and geared toward fitness and a healthy lifestyle. What you accomplish will motivate you to be your best mentally, physically and financially.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) If you connect with someone from your past, you'll realize what's missing in your life. Shared memories will clear your vision and encourage you to pursue a dream.

SELL YOUR ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY!



...BECAUSE MONEY DOESN'T GROW ON TREES!

CROSSWORD

Crossword Answers D3

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

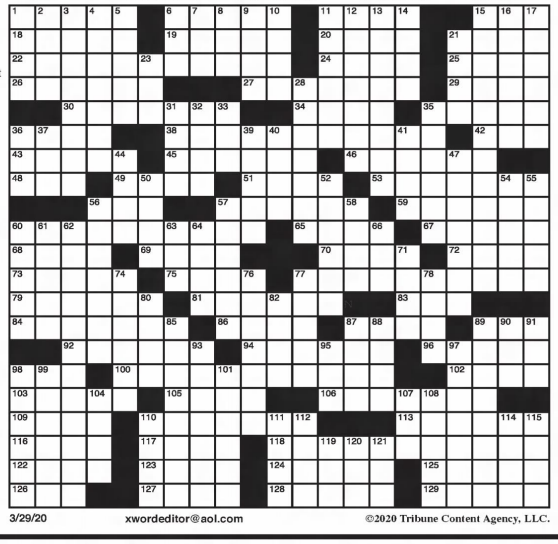
"INNER CITIES" By GARY LARSON

ACROSS

1 Plot again
6 Brand created by a periodontist in the 1950s
11 Zap
15 Kite user's verb
18 Yawning
19 Iris aperture
20 Being broadcast
21 Toledo's lake
22 *Alternative to a pizza oven
24 Word derived from the underworld god Orcus
25 Quarterback's option
26 "Romanian Rhapsodies" composer
27 Birds that tell time?
29 Tolkien race
30 What Brits cross to get here
34 Forsaken
35 Orange __
36 Like some airports: Abbr.
38 *Office group leader
42 Those with clout
43 Reef dweller
45 Line of clothing
46 Harsh
48 Blow away
49 Latin being
51 Part of a court game name
53 Elimination
56 General on a menu
57 Rat
59 Antique shop transaction
60 *Online gaming attraction
65 Designer Cassini
67 Street in Mason's office
68 Sews up
69 Dynamic start?
70 Norse patron
72 Encouraging words
73 Rotund man in a bright suit
75 Metalworking union
77 *Mathematical abstraction with evenly spaced integers
79 Farriers' tools
81 Like some mistakes
83 Ode title starter
84 Shooting marble
86 Passion
87 Daring exploit
89 Luthor, to Superman
92 Not for kids
94 Sign up
96 Wrangles
98 Former General Motors division
100 *Only occupant of Vostok I
102 Varieties
103 Teaspoon equivalents, roughly
105 Goddess with cow's horns
106 Track wagers
109 Conception
110 Not full
113 Judging groups
116 Ring at the chapel
117 YA fiction reader
118 Startup funds ... and a hint to what's hidden in the answers to the starred clues
122 Manitoba tribe
123 Fails to be
124 Beach, in Baja
125 Futuristic toon dog
126 Monopoly token
127 D-Day craft
128 Gunpowder ingredient
129 Feed, as a fire

DOWN

1 "Streamers" playwright
2 Pulitzer-winning novelist Jennifer
3 "The Egg and I" woman
4 In an imitative way
5 Parts of a pound
6 Special __
7 Same old same old
8 GI's address
9 "The Mod Squad" role
10 __ cheese
11 Began to deal with
12 Fluffy felines
13 Like gales vis-à-vis breezes
14 Gift-wrapping times, perhaps
15 *Lead singer of a group whose first two Top 40 hits reached #1
16 Champ dethroned by Clay in 1964
17 Approvals
21 Duel tool
23 Political initials since 1884
28 V8 relative
31 Elevator name
32 Hawaiian goose
33 Court figs.
35 Program for future docs
36 Draft pick
37 When repeated, a cautioning word
39 Wherewithal
40 Timbuktu's land
41 Incessantly
44 Cancún cash
47 Reddish rash
50 McGwire rival
52 Apple storage place
54 __ wrench
55 Limited-term usage contract
56 More irritable
57 Eric of "Pulp Fiction"
58 Position of control
60 Travel docs
61 Defeatist's words
62 *Breakfast order usually made with ham, onion and green pepper
63 "Ben-Hur" author Wallace
64 Valuable rocks
66 Idle talk
71 "Cone of shame" docs
74 Quiets
76 90 degrees
77 Wafer brand
78 Goes bad
80 In __: as found
82 Twinge
85 Strange quality
87 Unofficial EU leaders group
88 Peak seen from Messina
89 15-Down singing style
90 TV planet
91 Start to save?
93 Political opposition
95 Cause of yelling, often
97 One working on a bench?
98 Snag
99 Writer Welty
101 2014 World Series champs
104 __ ale
107 Tax pro
108 Calamares or caracoles
110 Elec., e.g.
111 Locker room shower, at times?
112 Where to find a hero
114 Bit of mischief
115 Wild plum
119 Wolf down
120 Salon coloring
121 Saturn or Mercury



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Accountant

B&L Info rmation Systems in Bridgman Michigan, the leading software developer in ERP (enterprise resource planning) solutions to the metal casting industry, has an immediate need for a an Accountant. This is a unique opportunity to become part of a growing company that is committed to a high standard of excellence, professional growth and passionate about success.

We offer a great benefit package:

- $60,000 - $80,000 annual salary
- Paid health care
- Profit-Sharing plan
- 401 k plan with company match
- 2 weeks paid vacation (3 weeks after 5 years)
- Gym membership
- Professional development opportunities

Responsibilities:

- Prepare and analyze summary reports on all financial activities
- Maintains accounting controls by preparing and enforcing policies and procedures
- Maintains customer confidence and protects operations by keeping financial information confidential
- Responsible for month-end and year-end accounting activities
- Manages accounts receivable revenue streams from contract creation to cash collection
- Understands deferred income concepts
- Manages financial transactions and monitors and controls cash flow
- Provides expert assistance by reviewing internally generated reports for accuracy, reconciling various accounts and troubleshooting problems as they arise
- Prepares distribution of financial reports, balance sheets, cash flow statements, P&L's, KPI's, and accounts receivable reports to management and arranges meetings, if appropriate, to discuss variances and/or irregularities prompting resolutions
- Responds to Management Team as assigned with accurate and timely work
- Supports the Company's key strategic initiatives by preparing ad hoc reports and performing other special projects, as needed
- Prepares and processes semi-monthly payroll
- Approves all expense reimbursements
- Facilitates 401 k Plan activities

Basic Qualifications:

- Ability to create & build relationships and effectively deal with people of all levels within an organization
- Strong computer skills with emphasis on Microsoft Office Suite
- Experience in managing revenue recognition
- Experience with financial analysis and reporting
- Experience maintaining strict controls on confidentiality and accounting
- Excellent verbal written and presentation skills
- Strategic mindset focused on long term process improvements and business performance
- Detail-oriented with strong organizational skills/ability to follow up and track multiple outstanding items

Education Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance or Business with an emphasis on accounting
- Minimum of 5 years of related experience

This position will have a direct line reporting to the CEO/President.

Please reply with cover letter, resume and three references to dwishart@blinfo.com.

Submit resume to dwishart@blinfo.com or
B&L InformationSystems, Inc.
Human Resources Coordinator
4707 Rambo Rd., Bridgman, MI 49106
Equal Opportunity Employer

Marketing Specialist

B&L Information Systems in Bridgman Michigan, the leading provider of ERP solutions to the metal casting industry, has an immediate need for a Marketing Specialist. The Marketing Specialist develops and oversees marketing programs in specific channels, to support business objectives, lead acquisition, foster customer retention, execute business development, provide sales support, and advance brand building.

We Offer a great benefit package:

- $45,000 - $55,000 annual salary
- Paid healthcare
- Profit-Sharing plan
- 401k plan with company match
- 2 weeks paid vacation (3 weeks after 5 years)
- Gym membership
- Professional development opportunities

Essential Functions:

- Build marketing programs to support specific marketing objectives across different channels and segments in support of our overall strategic marketing plan
- Partner with creative teams, other internal stakeholders, and external agencies and vendors
- Provide and execute the marketing plan for company events/ conferences
- Lead the execution of marketing programs from start to finish, driving collaboration with the stakeholders and leveraging the right internal processes
- Market through various channels and segment databases working with large data sets
- Develop business cases for marketing programs at the proposal stage and make recommendations on marketing tactics
- Evaluate the impact of marketing programs in achieving their stated objectives, including impact on lead flow, customer LTV and retention
- Propose and manage marketing research projects to generate consumer insights in support of improved marketing strategy and communications
- Work closely with industry organizations for sponsorships, ad placements, trade shows and conferences
- Experience building complex marketing programs and reporting on the results
- Experience writing newsletters and industry magazine articles a plus
- Exposure to digital and direct response marketing
- Competence as a creative writer with an eye for great emails and landing pages
- Strong problem-solving ability, including metrics-driven thinking
- Ability to travel as necessary to represent the company at trade shows or conferences

Position Type/Expected Hours of Work

- This is a full-time position.

Travel

- Travel is expected for this position.

Required Education and Experience

- Bachelor's Degree in Marketing or Business
- 4+ years of experience in marketing

Please reply with cover letter, resume and three references to dwishart@blinfo.com.

Submit resume to dwishart@blinfo.com or
B&L Information Systems, Inc.
Human Resources Coordinator
4707 Rambo Rd.
Bridgman, MI 49106
Equal Opportunity Employer

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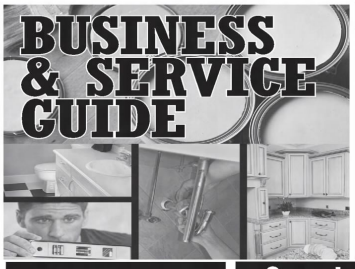

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HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Use charm and common sense to get your way. Gather facts and figures before you jump into unknown territory. Establish what it is you want to achieve and draw on the experience and people you've worked with in the past to help you bring your plans to life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Keep life practical and straightforward. Make adjustments that will help you move in a preferred direction. Think big, but don't live beyond your means. Work alongside someone you love and respect.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you reconnect with a person or place that brings back fond memories, you'll be encouraged to do what makes you happy. A secret that someone shares will help put your mind at ease.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) A situation that needs an adjustment will transform the way you think and feel about someone or something. Don't fight the inevitable.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Put in a couple of hours' work if it will help you get ahead and ease your mind. Once the job's complete, you'll feel like having fun with someone you love.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Participate in something and learn from the experience. Choose an event or activity that will stimulate your mind. Personal growth will lead to self-enlightenment and better relationships with others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you take control and get things done, you'll make a lasting impression on someone special. A change of scenery will lead to a personal adjustment. Love and romance should be priorities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Spend less time around people who bring you down and more time discovering what life has to offer. Start a hobby or do something entertaining or gratifying.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A lifestyle adjustment will lead to peace of mind and new beginnings. Surround yourself with people who encourage you to do and be your best. Romance is in the stars.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Ask questions that will help you decipher whether someone is being honest. Anger will not solve anything, but finding out where you stand and knowing when to say no will.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Rely on experience, insight and your ability to adapt and move on to get you through your day. Refuse to include anyone who resists what you have to offer in your plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Consider what you can do and be prepared to do it alone if necessary. Set a goal and work on it until you are satisfied with the results you achieve.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A problem with a neighbor or friend will develop if you are misinformed or dragged into a situation that makes you uncomfortable. Make personal improvement, love and romance your priorities.

MAKE SOME MONEY

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY!

Answer To Today's Puzzle

R	E	M	A	P		O	R	A	L	B		T	A	S	E			F	L	Y
A	G	A	P	E		P	U	P	I	L		O	N	T	V		E	R	I	E
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E	N	E	S	C	O				C	U	C	K	O	O	S		E	N	T	S
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I	N	T	L			T	E	A	M	M	A	N	A	G	E	R		I	N	S
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C	R	E	E		I	S	N	T		P	L	A	Y	A		A	S	T	R	O
H	A	T			L	S	T	S		N	I	T	E	R		S	T	O	K	E

3/29/20

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2019 FORD F-350 CREW CAB 4X4 XLT

RUBY RED METALLIC, 6.7 DIESEL POWER STROKE ENGINE, LOCKING REAR AXLE, CHROME PACKAGE, FOG LAMPS, CHROME PVD ALUMINUM WHEELS, REVERSE VEHICLE AID SENSOR, HEATED FRONT SEATS, POWER SEAT, SYNC 3, EXTENDED RUNNING BOARDS, SNOW PLOW PREP PACKAGE, POWER SCOPE TRAILER TOW MIRRORS, ULTIMATE TRAILER TOW CAMERA, UP-FITTER SWITCHES, AND MUCH MORE! F19404

MSRP	$63,105
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 4,110
FORD MATCHING DOWN RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CASH	- 750
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT RETAIL CASH*	- 2,500

SALE PRICE* $55,245

(*MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT

2019 FORD TRANSIT CARGO VAN

OXFORD WHITE, CLOTH SEATS, FIXED REAR DOOR GLASS, CRUISE CONTROL, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, AND MUCH MORE! F19322

MSRP	$37,940
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,445
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 750
FORD RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 2,250
FORD SPECIAL PACKAGE RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500
FORD MATCHING DOWN RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT RETAIL CASH*	- 2,000
FORD COMPETITIVE CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* $28,495

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2019 FORD F-250 CREW CAB 4X4 KING RANCH

AGATE BLACK, LOCKING REAR AXLE, POWER RUNNING BOARDS, POWER TWIN PANEL MOON ROOF, QUAD BEAM LED HEADLAMPS, BLIND SPOT INFO SYSTEM, TAILGATE STEP, 20 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL WITH COLLISION WARNING, AND MUCH MORE! F19385

MSRP	$66,670
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 3,675
FORD MATCHING DOWN RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT RETAIL CASH*	- 2,500
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 750

SALE PRICE* $59,245

(*MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT

2019 FORD E-350 BOX TRUCK

OXFORD WHITE, 6.2 V8 ENGINE, LIMITED SLIP REAR AXLE, CRUISE CONTROL, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, 16 FOOT BAY BRIDGE FRP BOX, BACK-UP CAMERA, SIDE POCKET DOOR WITH STEPWELL, AND MUCH MORE! F19121

MSRP	$34,660
ADD FOR BAYBRIDGE BODY	$11,762
SUBTOTAL	$46,422
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 4,927
FORD RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 2,500
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FOR CREDIT RETAIL CASH*	- 1,750
FORD COMMERCIAL UPFIT BONUS CASH*	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* $36,245

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2019 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED 4X4

WHITE PLATINUM METALLIC TRI-COAT, NAVIGATION, PANORAMIC VISTA ROOF, 360 DEGREE CAMERA, 22 INCH POLISHED ALUMINUM WHEELS, REAR SEAT ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM, LED HEADLAMPS, ENHANCED ACTIVE PARK ASSIST, HANDS FREE LIFTGATE, POWER DEPLOYABLE RUNNING BOARDS, FIRST AND SECOND ROW HEATED SEATS, POWER FOLD THIRD ROW SEAT, REAR VIEW CAMERA, REMOTE START, AND MUCH MORE! F19450

MSRP	$76,525
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 9,130

SALE PRICE* $67,395

2019 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW 4X4

RACE RED, 2.7 ECOBOOST ENGINE, STX APPEARANCE PACKAGE, 20 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, SYNC 3, PRIVACY GLASS, SATELLITE RADIO, RUNNING BOARDS, LOCKING REAR AXLE, TRAILER HITCH, FOG LIGHTS, AND MUCH MORE! F19124

PLUS A 10 YEAR/100,000 MILE POWERTRAIN CARE WARRANTY

MSRP	$44,730
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,985
FORD ALTERNATIVE RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 9,000
FORD FAST CASH CERTIFICATE	- 250

SALE PRICE* $32,495

2019 FORD MUSTANG

NEED FOR GREEN, 2.3 ECOBOOST ENGINE, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, OVER-THE-TOP RACING STRIPE, 18 INCH LOW GLOSS BLACK ALUMINUM WHEELS, REAR VIEW CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! F19280

MSRP	$29,655
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,660
FORD MUSTANG RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 1,000
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 750
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT BONUS CASH*	- 1,500
FORD MATCHING DOWN RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500

SALE PRICE* $24,445

(*MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2019 FORD RANGER CREW CAB 4X4 XLT

HOT PEPPER RED METALLIC, 2.3 ECOBOOST ENGINE, 10 SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, SATELLITE RADIO, ELECTRONIC LOCKING DIFFERENTIAL, FORD PASS CONNECT, FORWARD SENSING SYSTEM, REVERSE SENSING, REAR VIEW CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! F19510

LEASE FOR $199 PER MONTH*

24 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,500 MILES PER YEAR, $2,225 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. *MUST QUALIFY FOR FORD GM & RAM TRUCK OWNERS CONQUEST CASH, OFFER EXPIRES 03/31/20

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2019 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SAHARA 4X4 DEMO

BILLET SILVER METALLIC, SKY ONE-TOUCH POWER TOP, 18 INCH TECH GRAY POLISHED FACE WHEELS, LED LIGHTING GROUP, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, 2.0 TURBO ENGINE, HEATED FRONT SEATS, REMOTE START, INTEGRATED VOICE COMMAND WITH BLUETOOTH, HEATED STEERING WHEEL AND MUCH MORE! C19130

MSRP	$50,665
SIEMANS DEMO DISCOUNT	- 4,670
RETAIL BONUS CASH	- 2,000
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$43,995
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $43,495

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE ALTITUDE PACKAGE 4X4

DIAMOND BLACK CRYSTAL, POWER SUNROOF, 9 AMPLIFIED SPEAKERS WITH SUBWOOFER, PREMIUM LIGHTING GROUP, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, NAVIGATION, HEATED SEATS, POWER LIFTGATE, 20 INCH GLOSS BLACK ALUMINUM WHEELS, BLIND SPOT AND CROSS PATH DETECTION, AND MUCH MORE! C20047

MSRP	$44,570
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,575
REBATE	- 2,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 750
RETAIL BONUS CASH	- 500
JEEP SELECT INVENTORY	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$39,245
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
RETURNING LESSEE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $38,245

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2019 RAM 2500 CREW CAB 4X4

MAXIMUM STEEL METALLIC, 6.4 V8 ENGINE, RAMBOX CARGO MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, CHROME APPEARANCE GROUP, ANTI-SPIN REAR AXLE, LED BOX LIGHTING, CHROME CLAD WHEELS, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, SNOW PLOW PREP PACKAGE, TRAILER BRAKE CONTROLLER, AND MUCH MORE! C19256

MSRP	$46,215
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 3,470
REBATE	- 2,000
RAM BONUS COUPON	- 250
BONUS CASH	- 1,000
FCA CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$38,995
CONQUEST LEASE CASH*	- 500
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $37,995

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2019 RAM 1500 CREW CAB 4X4

FLAME RED, 5.7 HEMI V8 ENGINE, TRAILER TOW GROUP, BLACK TUBULAR SIDE STEPS, ANTI-SPIN REAR AXLE, SATELLITE RADIO, RECEIVER HITCH, TRAILER BRAKE CONTROLLER, REAR POWER SLIDING WINDOW, SPRAY-IN-BEDLINER, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, AND MUCH MORE! C19349

MSRP	$44,875
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 4,130
REBATE	- 2,000
RAM BONUS COUPON	- 250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 500
TRUCK OWNER CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 1,000
BONUS CASH	- 1,500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$35,495
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $34,995

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2020 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE PLUS 4X4

STING-GREY, REMOTE START, POWER LIFTGATE, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REAR BACK-UP CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! C20041

2020 JEEP COMPASS LIMITED 4X4

DIAMOND BLACK CRYSTAL, FULL SUNROOF, LEATHER INTERIOR, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, REMOTE START, 18 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, HEATED SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, AND MUCH MORE! C20115

2019 DODGE CHALLENGER SXT

TRIPLE NICKEL CLEARCOAT, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, 20 INCH WHEELS, HEATED FRONT SEATS, AND MUCH MORE! C19299

2020 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE 4X4

ALPINE WHITE, PASSIVE ENTRY REMOTE START PACKAGE, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, BACK-UP CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! C20132

LEASE FOR $269/MO*

42 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, $3,450 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. *MUST QUALIFY FOR CHRYSLER LEASE RENEWAL OFFER EXPIRES 03/31/20

LEASE FOR $259/MO*

42 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, $3,000 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. *MUST QUALIFY FOR CHRYSLER LEASE RENEWAL OFFER EXPIRES 03/31/20

LEASE FOR $319/MO*

42 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, $2,550 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. *MUST QUALIFY FOR CHRYSLER LEASE RENEWAL OFFER EXPIRES 03/31/20

LEASE FOR $199/MO*

42 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, $2,200 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. *MUST QUALIFY FOR LEASE RENEWAL OFFER EXPIRES 03/31/20

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